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EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor: Bob Ford, 808 Hatchie, Brownsville, TN 38012 <editorthemigrant@gmail.com>

Associate Editors:

Susan McWhirter, 274 Beech Grove Road, McMinnville, TN 37110 <snmcwhirter@gmail.com>
and
Martha Waldron, 1014 Murray Hill Lane, Memphis, TN 38120 <martha.waldron@gmail.com>

State Count Compiler: Ron Hoff, 282 Hackworth Lane, Clinton, TN 37716 <aves7000@bellsouth.net>

Season Editor: Richard L. Knight, 804 North Hills Dr., Johnson City, TN 37604 <rknight8@earthlink.net>

Regional Season Editors:
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Highland Rim and Basin: Stephen C. Zipperer, 3105 Chapel Hills Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129 <stczipperer@aol.com>
Eastern Ridge and Valley: Richard L. Knight, 804 N. Hills Rd., Johnson City, TN 37604 <rknight8@earthlink.net>
Eastern Mountain: Richard P. Lewis, 407 V.I. Ranch Rd., Bristol, TN 37620 <mountainbirds@email.com>

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The Tennessee Warbler (TOS Newsletter) Editor: Theresa Graham, P.O. Box 366, Oakland, TN 38060 <2graham@bellsouth.net>

The TOS website can be found at: www.tnbirds.org

Send subscriptions & address changes to:
Tennessee Ornithological Society, 274 Beech Grove Road, McMinnville, TN 37110
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FIRST RECORDS OF BLACK-CAPPED PETREL AND BROWN NODDY IN TENNESSEE

Michael Todd
Jackson, TN

On the afternoon of 13 September 2017 I observed a Black-capped Petrel (*Pterodroma hasitata*) and Brown Booby (*Anous stolidus*) on Pickwick Lake in Hardin County. They were observed out from Bruton Branch Recreational Area a few kilometers above Pickwick Dam. Their presence was a direct result of the remnants of Hurricane Irma which tracked directly over the Pickwick area earlier in the day. Irma was a massive Category 5 hurricane that had wreaked havoc in the Caribbean. It had dropped to a Category 4 when it made landfall in south Florida. It then tracked over the Peninsula, through Georgia, Alabama, northern Mississippi, and into Tennessee (Figure 1).

With the advance of Hurricane Irma into Tennessee, several Tennessee birders discussed the possibility and likelihood of Pickwick Lake being productive after this storm. Initially we agreed that since the winds associated with the storm broke down sooner than expected, most of the birds would have already dropped out of the system before it arrived in Tennessee. However, on this same day observers in Kentucky reported Sooty Terns (*Onychoprion fuscatus*) on Kentucky Lake, so this provided the impetus to head to Pickwick Lake.

I arrived in the area at about 1330; much of the lake was covered in fog, wind was 16 – 24 km, there was misting rain, and the temperature was 18 ° C. One of the first birds I observed coming out of the fog over the lake was an adult Sooty Tern (a juvenile was also seen later in the day as well). A couple of Laughing Gulls (*Larus atricilla*) were present also, which are typical post-hurricane birds; it appears Sooty Tern now qualifies as such. Also of interest in the area was at least one, possibly two, Jaegers (*Stercorarius* sp.), though they weren't seen well enough to identify by species.

I observed the Black-capped Petrel on the water only, initially at a great distance, but it floated to within about 230 meters at one point. When I first saw the bird I scanned by it thinking it a probable Laughing Gull, noting the contrast of the dark black back, white underparts and partially dark head. As the bird came closer it became apparent it was a

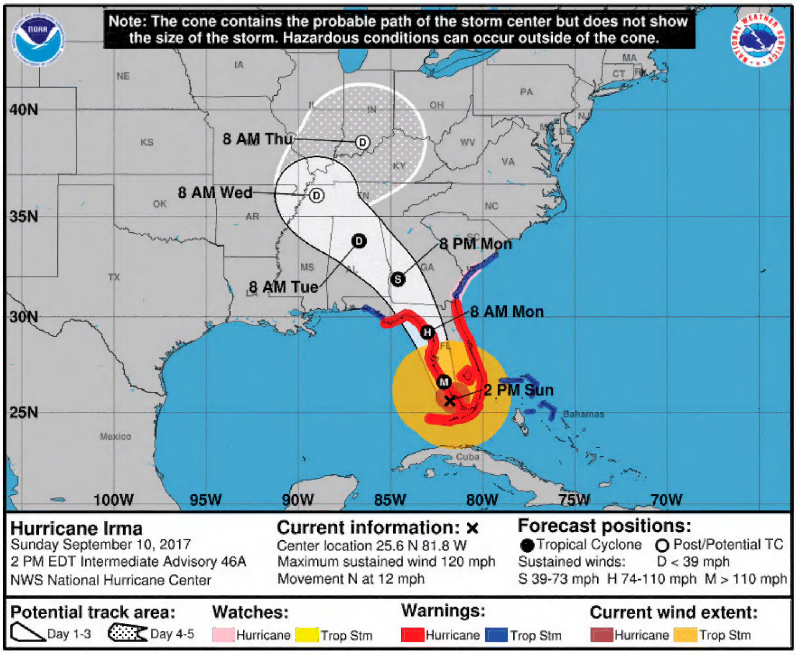


Figure 1. The predicted track of Hurriane Irma in 2017, issued for the public by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Weather Service.

petrel (*Pterodroma* spp), most likely a Black-capped. I was able to photograph and see it well enough to rule out any of the other less-likely Atlantic *Pterodromas* species (Figure 2). At one point, after getting a few digiscopes, I had to change position due to the birds drifting behind some trees on the shore. I moved briefly to reposition my optics, but was unable to find the bird again. It is possible the bird expired on the water as it was not seen again after repeated scanning of the lake by me and other birders who arrived later that afternoon.

Figure 2. Black-capped Petrel, Tennessee's first record of this species, photographed on Pickwick Lake. *Photo credit: Michael Todd.*

After losing sight of the petrel I continued to search for birds in the area. The fog lifted suddenly, revealing groups of terns on various parts of the lake, mostly *Sterna* spp, but a few Black Terns (*Childonius niger*) as well. While scanning one group in the distance that was flying towards me I picked up an all-dark bird coming with them. My first thought was that this was a jaeger (*Stercorarius* spp) but it quickly became evident this bird did not show the structure or plumage of a dark-morph jaeger. I had distant but solid scope views of a Brown Noddy (*Anous stolidus*) flying with the *Sterna* spp terns; most were likely to be Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*). I had the noddy in view for about two minutes before losing sight of it as the birds headed towards the dam. I immediately traveled to that area but could not locate the group of birds. Mark Greene arrived soon afterwards; we had distant views of the Brown Noddy again late in the day from the Bruton Branch area. It appeared to be a juvenile; I could not discern any white on the forehead area as expected on older birds.

Pending acceptance by the Tennessee Bird Records Committee, this is the first record of *Pterdroma* spp of any type for Tennessee as well as the first record of a Brown Noddy. Ruben Stoll and Victor Stoll documented a second Black-capped Petrel soon after on 9 October 2017 at Woods Reservoir in Franklin County following Hurricane Nate.

FIRST TENNESSEE RECORD OF BROWN BOOBY

Ruben Stoll
Centerville, Tennessee

I spent the morning of 20 October 2016 birding at the Big Sandy Unit of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge (TNWR) and was heading home around 1245 when I decided to stop at the Camden Wildlife Management Area. I went to "The Overlook", a spot that overlooks the largest part of Kentucky Lake between Camden WMA in Benton County on the west, and the Pump Station of the Duck River Unit TNWR in Humphreys County on the east. Most of this vast, relatively shallow area is in Humphreys County.

No sooner had I set up my Kowa Prominar 880 spotting scope when I noticed a large, active feeding frenzy about 250 meters out, consisting of hundreds of diving Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) and American White Pelicans (*Pelicanus erythrorhynchos*) foraging by plunging their huge bills into the water. All the birds were working together in a group, appearing to be herding a school of unidentified bait fish. While watching this feeding behavior I noticed a strange bird quietly sitting on the water at the edge of the feeding frenzy. I almost immediately recognized it as a Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*) based on my previous experience with this species in Belize, Central America, and Hawaii.

I noted the bird was similar in size to a Double-crested Cormorant but had a relatively long neck and a distinctive, deep-based wedge-shaped bill that was pale grayish to ivory in color. The overall plumage color of the bird was a uniform dull brown. It had a noticeably unique angle to the feathered border at the base of the bill.

I spent the next 30 minutes observing the bird as it took wing, arcing high, then plunging into the feeding frenzy in a shallow dive. Later the bird was circling, gliding and even kiting in the wind as it searched the water below.

Additional field marks noted in flight were long, narrow, pointed wings held somewhat bent at the wrist, fully webbed yellowish feet, and a long wedge-shaped pointed tail that periodically fanned out giving a splayed, fingered look. The underside was not a pure white with a clean cut border as in adult Brown Booby, but rather a dirty white color visible in the belly and under-wing coverts that indicated an immature bird.

On 21 October 2016, the bird was seen again from the Pump Station of the Duck River Unit, TNWR at 0700 by Morton Massey, Victor Stoll, Alan Troyer, Jack Zipperer, Steve Zipperer and me. It flew past us towards the north, briefly landed on a floating buoy, then flew back past a second time and disappeared to the south. Subsequent efforts to relocate the bird failed.

The only known photographic evidence available is a series of extremely poor quality digiscopes I took on the morning of 21 October. These photos were later reviewed by David Roemer and other experts, and showed a shape that suggests a bird from the Sulidae family and a brown color that suggests a Brown Booby, but not entirely diagnostic. The Tennessee Bird Records Committee voted 6 to 0 to accept the record as Tennessee's first Brown Booby based on the photos and the written documentation (The Migrant 88:118-119).

BOOK REVIEW – BIRDS OF THE CENTRAL CAROLINAS

Birds of the Central Carolinas. Donald W. Seriff. Illustrations by Leigh Anne Carter. Published by the Mecklenburg Audubon Society, Charlotte, North Carolina, 2018. 591 pages. www.meckbirds.org

The Carolinas have a rich tradition of ornithology and documented bird study dating from at least the 1800s. In his book, *Birds of the Central Carolinas*, Donald Seriff has continued this tradition. The primary scope of work is the Piedmont region of the Central Carolinas, an 11 county area of both North and South Carolina, which covers a geography of rolling hills, isolated mountain outcrops and three major rivers as well as the rapidly expanding urban area of Charlotte, North Carolina. The book provides an impressive collection of historical and new information for over 300 species known to this region and includes detailed information from the recently completed Mecklenberg County Breeding Bird Atlas. Original artwork of birds by Leigh Anne Carter greatly enhances the book. Numerous people contributed their time, data, unpublished notes, and photographs for publication in this book. In fact, the book is funded and supported in full by the Mecklenberg Audubon Society, a dedicated effort that speaks to the importance of citizen science today as well as providing a strong link to the great tradition of bird study in the Carolinas.

The bulk of the book is the Species Accounts for all of the species known to occur in the Central Carolinas. Each species account includes a wealth of biological background and documentation of occurrence in the region, including the method of verification (such as whether by written report, picture or otherwise). The account often includes information about distribution across the Carolinas, but provides more specifics on the habitat, occurrences, ecology and distribution of the species in the Piedmont region. Breeding Bird Atlas results are summarized for Mecklenberg County and follow the general guidelines of most Breeding Bird Atlas documentation, including observed breeding status and distribution maps. All species accounts include artwork by Carter and pictures of the species. Supplemental lists for hypothetical and exotic species are included, as well as a select bibliography and quick index guide.

While an up-to-date geographic resource for anyone interested in birds in the southeast United States and beyond, *Birds of the Central Carolinas* also carries a consistent theme of history and ornithological tradition throughout. The book introduces many of the early naturalists and those who collected bird eggs and specimens in the Carolinas and moves that history into the conservation effort led by indivudals and bird clubs of the Twentieth Century.

Among the highlights of the book for me is that most species accounts include field notes, newspaper articles, and other notes from the 1800s into the 1900s and a variety of folk names for species. These notes were previously either difficult to access or unavailable, or at best, not compiled into one publication. For example, nesting ecology of the "tom-tit" (Tufted Titmouse) in an 1880 account documented by oologist R.B. McLaughlin provides detailed notes and interesting behaviors of this species.

Birds of the Central Carolinas is a large hardcover reference perhaps best suited for the

student of birds who enjoys the details of distribution, ecology, nesting status, and historical accounts of birds in specific regions. However, it is also an attractive and fun book which serve as a coffee table book for anyone to pick up and skim through.

Bob Ford, Brownsville, TN

The Migrant 89(2): 54-66, 2018

2018 TENNESSEE SPRING BIRD COUNTS

Ron Hoff
Loudon, TN

There were ten spring bird counts. A total of 247 observers put in just over 641 party hours to record 57,960 individual birds. There were 211 species observed on the count. The weather was reasonable with only a few counts having some light rain. Nearly all the counts experienced wind up to 20 mph. Temperatures ranged from a chilly 37° F in Cumberland County to 89° F in Blount County. Notable sightings included Ross's Goose, Least Bittern, White-faced Ibis, Golden Eagle, Bell's Vireo, Purple Finch, Vesper Sparrow, and Painted Bunting. It is disheartening that only one Loggerhead Shrike was reported.

The counts in the table are arranged geographically from west to east. Taxonomic order follows the American Ornithological Society (AOS) Checklist of North and Middle American Birds, 59th supplement (2018) to the AOU Checklist.

COUNTY SUMMARIES

Anderson County – 0601-1935. Weather: partly cloudy; wind 2-24 mph; 59°-82° F. Northern Harrier and five Swainson's Warblers were notable. Observers: Doug Bruce, Chuck Estes, Melinda Fawver (compiler), Kirk Huffstater, Stephen J. Stedman, and Jimmy Tucker.

Blount County – 0300-2110. Weather: clear; wind 0-6 mph; 59°-89° F. Highlights included Common Merganser, ten_Ruffed Grouse, and Olive-sided Flycatcher. Observers: Jean J. Alexander (compiler), Tiffany Beachy, Warren Bielenberg, Doug Bruce, Wanda DeWaard, Harry Draper, Melinda Fawver, Marian D. Fitzgerald, Tom E. Fitzgerald, Kim J. Henry, Stephen P. Henry, Thomas D. Howe, Susan Hoyle, James R. Human, David M. Johnson, Kristine Johnson, Karen J. Petrey, Logan Rosenberg, Stephen Rothschild, Doug Schneeburger, Paula Schneeberger, Ruben Stoll, Victor Stoll, Mary Tankersley, Alan Troyer, Harumi Umi, Randy Winstead, and June D. Welch.

Cumberland County - 0345-1715. Weather: clear; wind NW 0-15; 37°-73° F. Highlights

included American Bittern, Sora, and Prothonotary Warbler (rare in this county). Observers: Bruce F. Anderson, Nan E. Beasley, Douglas A. Downs, Annell S. Fields, Janie C. Finch, Ric Finch, Martha K. Hale, Edmond K. LeGrand (compiler), Joseph E. Mast, Lynn Miller, Steven J. Stedman, and Reuben J. Yoder.

Elizabethton - 0345-2030. Weather: cloudy with late afternoon rain; wind light and variable; 54°-78° F. This was the 75th consecutive Elizabethton spring bird count. A lone Greater Scaup was notable. The total for Worm-eating Warbler (42) was the highest ever for a single count in the state. Observers: Fred Alsop, Jim Anderson, Rob Armistead, Betty Bailey, Gary Bailey, Jerry Bevins, Rob Biller, Belinda Bridwell, Kevin Brooks, Debi Campbell, J. G. Campbell, Ron Carrico, Mary Clark, Angela Cross, Rack Cross, Diane Draper, Cindy Ehrhardt, Glen Eller, Rob Estes, Harry Lee Farthing, Bambi Fincher, Marion Finucane, Dave Gardner, Bill Grigsby, Paul Haynes, Jackie Hinshaw, Don Holt, Mike Hubley, Susan Hubley, Connie Irick, David Irick, Jack Kincade, Nancy Kincade, Rick Knight (compiler), Chad Leedy, Roger Lemaster, Richard Lewis, Vern Maddux, Cindy Marek, Larry McDaniel, Joe McGuiness, Cathy McNeil, Tom McNeil, Eric Middlemas, Charles Moore, Harry Norman, Brookie Potter, Jean Potter, Sherri Quillen, Ken Rea, Brenda Richards, Judi Sawyer, Deb Soike, Chris Soto, Michele Sparks, Bryan Stevens, Kim Stroud, Nancy Tate, Scott Turner, and Joyce Watson.

Hamilton County – 0600-1930. Weather: mostly cloudy with light rain in the afternoon; 64°-78° F. A White-faced Ibis was a highlight. Observers: David Aborn, Tim Baker, Harold Birch, Kevin Calhoon (compiler), Bruce Dralle, Danny Gaddy, Bill Haley, Daniel Jacobson, Gary Lanham, Pixie Lanham, Randy Palmer, Tommie Rogers, Jeffery Schaarschmidt, Jimmy Wilkerson, and Libby Wolfe.

Knox County - 0430-1930. Weather: sunny; wind NE 0-17 mph; 41°-64° F. Sora, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Marsh Wren were highlights. Observers: Cody Allen, Mark Armstrong, Frank Bills, Sean Brereton, Doug Bruce, Billie Cantwell, Gail Clendenen, Steve Clendenen, Jon Desonier, K. Dean Edwards (compiler), Chuck Estes, Melinda Fawver, Douglas, Ferry, Paul Hartigan, Angela Hoffman, Susan Hoyle, James Human, Kristine Johnson, Michelle Johnson, Bill Keeler, Roger Kroodsma, Jerry Ledbetter, Bruce Marshall, Morton Massey, Seth McConchie, Stephanie McNew, Jennifer Miller, John O'Barr, Talissa Ralph, Kelly Roy, Martha Rudolph, Michael Ryon, Beth Schilling, Kurt Sickafus, Colin Sumrall, Douglas Sumrall, Laura Tappan, Jimmy Tucker, Murray Wade, Merikay Waldvogel, Chris Welsh, Shane Williams, and Michael Winck.

Montgomery County – 0515-1920. Weather: mostly sunny; wind SSW 7-15 mph; 65°-86°F. Highlights included Ross's Goose, Least Bittern, and Bell's Vireo. Observers: Susan Arnold, Elaine Foust (compiler), Joe Hall, Steve Hromada, Daniel Moss, Justin Nation, Robin Nation, Cyndi Routledge, JoAnne Routledge, Larry Routledge, Risk Shipkowski, and Susan Shipkowski.

Nashville - 0500-1600. Weather: fog and rain for some areas but otherwise clear; wind NW and light; 55°-81° F. Notable finds included American Bittern, Alder Flycatcher, and Vesper Sparrow. Observers: Chris Agee, Sharon Arnold, Kim Bailey, Kevin Bowden, Susan Bradfield, Trae Bradfield, Joel Bruyere, Ed Byrne, Richard Connors, Bill Fissell, Amanda Fulda, Heather Gallagher, Steve Goodbred, Joseph Hall, Barbara Harris (compiler), Bob Ingle, opkins,H John Kell, Camille Monohan, Ken Oeser, Amy Potter, Sarah Scott, Jan K. Shaw, Sheila Shay, Danny Shelton, Michael Smith, Jim Thoman, Melinda Welton, and Mary Zimmerman.

Perry County - 0030-2030. Weather: cool, clear, and sunny; 40°-80° F. A Brewster's Warbler was notable. Participants: Adam Beachy, Evan Beachy, Jessica Kate Beachy, Seth Beachy, Susann Beachy, Joseph Byler, Luke Doty, Joe Hall, Daniel Kinsinger, Ruben Stoll (compiler), Victor Stoll, Alan Troyer, Leona Troyer, and Marty Tucker.

Shelby County – 0530-1830. Weather: partly cloudy; wind S 3-17 mph; 67°-88° F. Highlights included Sora, Canada Warbler, and Painted bunting. Observers: Betty Blaylock, David Blaylock, Thomas Blevins, Chad Brown, Sue Cosmini, Judy Dorsey, Sue Ferguson, Margaret Jefferson, Tanya Martchek, Dick Preston (compiler), Mary Schmidt, Cathy Souther, Ed Thomas, Jim Varner, Martha Waldron, David Young, and Linda Young.

2017 SPRING COUNTS

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Date	12-May	12-May	28-Apr	5-May	5-May	28-Apr	6-May	29-Apr	12-May	5-May	
Species											
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53
Ross's Goose	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Canada Goose	55	118	49	77	132	117	56	140	121	648	1513
Wood Duck	18	29	70	20	5	24	9	25	28	70	298
Blue-winged Teal	4	1	43	3	1	10	-	3	-	-	65
Northern Shoveler	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3
Gadwall	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			3
Mallard	46	1	6	88	74	18	9	64	25	176	507
Green-winged Teal	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	3
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Hooded Merganser	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Common Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	4	6
Northern Bobwhite	-	6	7	7	-	1	-	6	7	-	34
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	4	14
Wild Turkey	1	33	13	30	8	21	-	14	17	45	182
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	2	3	5	1	-	2	-	-	13
Rock Pigeon	39	7	6	14	93	34	24	42	88	217	564
Eurasian Collared-Dove	14	-	6	1	6	-	-	-	3	10	40
Mourning Dove	92	79	265	46	164	116	58	150	230	251	1451

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5	7	3	3	2	1	5	3	30	17	76
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	5
Common Nighthawk	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	5	15
Chuck-will's-widow	-	1	3	-	3	10	-	1	15	7	40
Eastern Whip-poor-will	-	1	18	2	72	24	1	-	2	43	163
Chimney Swift	24	30	131	111	74	6	17	113	128	185	819
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	18	13	27	16	5	14	3	18	15	51	180
Sora	2	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	8
American Coot	-	-	-	23	1	1	1	1	-	-	27
Black-necked Stilt	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
American Golden-Plover	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Semipalmated Plover	-	6	-	2	-	-	12	-	-	-	20
Killdeer	38	35	16	10	26	27	3	9	8	41	213
Stilt Sandpiper	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Least Sandpiper	34	3	1	12	16	-	45	-	-	10	121
White-rumped Sandpiper	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7
Pectoral Sandpiper	146	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	148
Semipalmated Sandpiper	19	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Western Sandpiper	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
American Woodcock	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	23	-	-	5	-	5	-	-	33
Spotted Sandpiper	1	2	13	20	15	10	18	18	2	37	136
Solitary Sandpiper	-	3	59	8	7	11	-	7	3	35	133
Lesser Yellowlegs	8	2	10	1	4	4	-	1	-	8	38
Greater Yellowlegs	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	6

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Yellowlegs sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	81	1	-	-	1	-	2	8 5
Herring Gull	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Caspian Tern	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Forster's Tern	-	-	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Double-crested Cormorant	-	12	68	212	5	26	17	297	5	144	786
American White Pelican	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
American Bittern	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
Least Bittern	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Great Blue Heron	3	26	46	86	44	5	5	83	15	123	436
Great Egret	2	22	6	18	4	-	-	4	-	2	58
Snowy Egret	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Green Heron	2	13	7	1	4	8	1	12	7	29	84
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	4	2	2	15
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	9
White-faced Ibis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Black Vulture	-	77	179	212	24	3	8	67	6	121	697
Turkey Vulture	18	97	454	44	67	53	28	52	29	167	1009
Osprey	-	3	1	10	23	2	3	29	7	12	90
Mississippi Kite	71	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71
Bald Eagle	-	2	19	4	1	-	-	8	-	8	42
Northern Harrier	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	1	-	7
Cooper's Hawk	2	2	5	5	2	6	-	4	3	8	37
Accipiter sp.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	8	18	10	8	13	1	3	8	2	78
Broad-winged Hawk	2	2	17	2	7	7	4	1	1	8	51
Red-tailed Hawk	4	11	23	40	6	10	3	27	9	27	160
Golden Eagle	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Barn Owl	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	2	3	1	3	5	-	-	3	8	25
Great Horned Owl	1	4	4	1	2	1	-	1	1	2	17
Barred Owl	5	11	22	8	-	3	-	-	5	8	62
Belted Kingfisher	2	7	13	6	5	2	3	9	4	15	66
Red-headed Woodpecker	9	10	10	12	2	50	-	6	-	10	109
Red-bellied Woodpecker	56	36	35	56	28	59	29	80	57	129	565
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	6
Downy Woodpecker	22	12	25	29	10	11	10	37	19	55	230
Hairy Woodpecker	-	8	8	2	2	6	2	12	12	6	58
Northern Flicker	4	8	5	3	6	14	2	21	9	44	116
Pileated Woodpecker	12	9	30	20	7	17	10	10	23	59	197
American Kestrel	1	8	2	4	-	6	-	4	1	19	45
Merlin	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Great Crested Flycatcher	53	26	23	38	10	13	4	16	30	31	244
Eastern Kingbird	23	28	55	48	9	24	24	33	32	123	399
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Eastern Wood-Pewee	45	64	4	77	12	3	10	3	20	43	281
Acadian Flycatcher	62	30	1	17	5	-	13	1	7	32	168
Alder Flycatcher	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Willow Flycatcher	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	6
Least Flycatcher	-	2	-	3	-	1	-	-	2	2	10
Empidonax sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Eastern Phoebe	15	27	75	28	22	59	37	20	50	82	415
Loggerhead Shrike	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
White-eyed Vireo	74	55	147	74	67	82	22	23	17	21	582
Bell's Vireo	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Yellow-throated Vireo	13	11	45	13	5	32	16	7	5	10	157
Blue-headed Vireo	-	3	8	9	2	13	3	4	27	86	155
Philadelphia Vireo	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Warbling Vireo	5	11	15	20	-	-	-	-	-	17	68
Red-eyed Vireo	38	43	128	113	161	96	160	46	139	280	1204
Blue Jay	37	33	160	76	99	82	16	139	107	231	980
American Crow	31	58	193	78	206	209	40	116	102	377	1410
Fish Crow	6	-	-	-	5	-	-	3	4	2	20
Common Raven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	22	24
Horned Lark	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Purple Martin	16	27	225	28	31	25	-	24	42	82	500
Tree Swallow	-	7	27	43	70	69	31	141	62	206	656
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	14	24	117	84	74	34	25	49	74	131	626
Bank Swallow	-	-	4	12	-	-	3	-	-	-	19

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Cliff Swallow	35	120	742	214	421	-	101	145	182	864	2824
Barn Swallow	34	29	109	328	109	244	25	119	130	226	1353
Carolina Chickadee	39	30	66	78	61	88	51	117	67	197	794
Black-capped Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Tufted Titmouse	79	63	80	112	84	177	56	117	117	213	1098
Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	11	19
White-breasted Nuthatch	25	11	29	32	11	21	8	23	25	44	229
Brown-headed Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	16	-	4	7	-	-	27
Brown Creeper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
House Wren	-	10	1	2	9	34	2	14	7	53	132
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
Marsh Wren	-	1	3	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	7
Carolina Wren	72	42	107	93	112	111	97	184	168	225	1211
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	36	58	185	108	54	69	52	46	18	110	736
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	6
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	5	5	-	5	2	9	-	2	28
Eastern Bluebird	3	55	131	73	63	100	40	72	83	181	801
Veery	-	1	3	4	1	-	-	1	26	15	51
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	3	5	1	-	1	-	-	1	11
Swainson's Thrush	9	6	12	35	9	-	7	-	30	3	111
Wood Thrush	16	17	41	28	8	50	49	30	18	109	366
American Robin	31	86	54	210	729	213	39	202	485	844	2893
Gray Catbird	1	3	9	14	10	8	6	16	20	77	164
Brown Thrasher	19	20	37	45	52	45	25	43	40	72	398

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Northern Mockingbird	25	58	43	21	113	46	16	76	82	138	618
European Starling	214	121	169	164	238	193	38	169	318	921	2545
Cedar Waxwing	95	14	24	32	54	6	42	191	99	144	701
House Sparrow	35	26	80	14	40	38	4	20	19	47	323
House Finch	16	31	21	19	36	37	11	119	62	96	448
Purple Finch	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pine Siskin	-	-	17	1	2	52	15	4	21	79	191
American Goldfinch	13	68	439	112	60	231	94	140	46	382	1585
Eastern Towhee	12	59	20	67	83	110	22	121	63	250	807
Chipping Sparrow	28	48	94	18	85	112	26	32	35	137	615
Field Sparrow	3	59	88	80	12	76	15	106	48	74	561
Vesper Sparrow	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Savannah Sparrow	16	1	138	9	11	36	4	24	3	2	244
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	2	2	2	-	3	-	3	6	4	22
Henslow's Sparrow	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Song Sparrow	4	4	1	16	50	101	48	101	67	322	714
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	114	7	-	4	-	3	-	1	129
White-throated Sparrow	-	2	140	6	7	14	-	48	2	10	229
White-crowned Sparrow	-	3	31	1	-	6	-	2	-	7	50
Dark-eyed Junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	74	89
Yellow-breasted Chat	8	37	46	39	20	36	5	18	33	10	252
Bobolink	-	5	61	13	-	1	-	-	-	16	96
Eastern Meadowlark	26	26	50	17	27	113	11	22	32	144	468
Orchard Oriole	9	21	68	42	7	8	17	19	13	28	232
Baltimore Oriole	13	2	24	19	1	1	1	3	-	35	99

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Red-winged Blackbird	68	108	192	158	96	155	39	139	184	546	1685
Brown-headed Cowbird	79	61	365	113	34	48	27	67	45	144	983
Common Grackle	26	63	123	93	111	59	7	107	230	474	1293
Ovenbird	-	3	4	7	30	45	10	5	66	170	340
Worm-eating Warbler	-	1	30	4	10	5	1	3	7	42	103
Louisiana Waterthrush	3	7	27	8	8	10	15	2	4	37	121
Northern Waterthrush	-	-	10	8	1	-	-	1	-	3	23
Golden-winged Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Blue-winged Warbler	-	1	33	9	-	2	-	2	-	-	47
Black-and-white Warbler	2	-	28	13	27	34	11	5	21	118	259
Prothonotary Warbler	11	24	59	18	2	1	-	5	2	-	122
Swainson's Warbler	2	-	-	2	2	-	5	-	1	3	15
Tennessee Warbler	33	9	19	104	16	-	13	2	4	1	201
Orange-crowned Warbler	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Nashville Warbler	-	-	12	6	2	-	-	2	-	-	22
Kentucky Warbler	20	17	24	16	10	20	8	4	-	-	119
Common Yellowthroat	3	44	109	64	9	42	14	72	34	23	414
Hooded Warbler	16	3	51	10	31	105	61	18	30	192	517
American Redstart	35	-	24	16	5	19	50	2	5	12	168
Cape May Warbler	-	-	-	12	4	-	6	1	-	4	27
Cerulean Warbler	12	-	8	5	1	12	10	2	1	-	51
Northern Parula	47	40	85	46	2	9	35	4	21	44	333
Magnolia Warbler	2	2	-	23	5	-	-	1	4	7	44
Bay-breasted Warbler	-	-	4	27	3	-	1	-	-	-	35

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Blackburnian Warbler	2	-	4	7	2	2	2	1	2	11	33
Yellow Warbler	-	19	22	20	3	5	1	7	1	34	112
Chestnut-sided Warbler	3	1	1	34	6	9	3	3	2	18	80
Blackpoll Warbler	6	1	18	49	30	-	8	2	1	5	120
Black-throated Blue Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	16	71	88
Palm Warbler	-	3	115	32	11	9	2	17	-	5	194
Pine Warbler	1	9	9	4	85	36	-	20	10	13	187
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	3	82	82	8	11	3	92	-	53	334
Yellow-throated Warbler	6	22	29	19	16	42	48	1	7	43	233
Prairie Warbler	-	27	144	29	33	72	7	3	5	14	334
Black-throated Green Warbler	2	-	20	20	15	9	32	19	23	97	237
Canada Warbler	1	-	-	4	2	-	1	-	6	34	48
Wilson's Warbler	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Summer Tanager	53	62	68	102	27	2	4	1	1	3	323
Scarlet Tanager	1	6	63	42	74	26	36	16	26	97	387
Northern Cardinal	99	125	201	218	152	255	119	307	268	376	2120
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	4	-	72	26	74	15	19	18	1	37	266
Blue Grosbeak	4	18	29	10	6	23	-	9	12	6	117
Indigo Bunting	95	147	295	139	67	35	47	31	131	148	1135
Painted Bunting	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dickcissel	85	39	8	3	-	-	-	-	1	2	138
Total individuals	2972	3259	8701	5858	5381	5018	2372	5388	5259	13752	57960
Total species	118	132	151	155	140	126	110	135	130	152	211

Counties	SHLB	MNTG	PRRY	NSHV	HMLT	CUMB	ADSN	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Observers	17	10	15	28	15	13	6	43	40	60	247
Parties	6	8	6	10	7	6--8	4	28	12	15	96
Party hours	33.5	44	57.5	80.3	42	69.75	17.05	92	78.34	127	641.44
Hours by car	9	29	8	16.55	23	42.75	6.15	12.08	20.82	-	167.35
Hours by foot	24.5	15	40	63.75	19	22.5	10.9	76.92	57.52	-	330.09
Hours by canoe or other	-	-	9.5	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	12.5
Miles by car	44.5	349.7	155	196.5	259	473.75	36.2	187.25	306.3	-	2008.2
Miles by foot	10.75	7.1	32	39.85	15	13.5	6.5	70.88	48.56	-	244.14
Miles by canoe or other	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	2.75	-	-	6.75
Hours owling	0.5	4.05	4	1.25	2	3.65	0.45	1.5	1.08	7	25.48
Miles owling	0.5	27	3	7.5	18	46	2.2	3.6	-	-	107.8
Feeder observers	-	4	-	-	-	2	1	-	7	-	14
Feeder hours	-	8.25	-	-	-	4.5	0.43	14.32	5.25	-	32.75

CORRECTION: CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 2017 DATA IN *THE MIGRANT*

The Christmas Bird Count summary as published in *The Migrant* 89:14 -29 is incorrect. The error occurs specifically in the count compilations on pages 28 – 29. The correct version of the summary is provided below starting on page 68. Furthermore, the Table of Contents incorrectly states the title as "The Tennessee 2018 Christmas Bird Count Summary". The correct title is in the text of the publication, which is "The Tennessee 2017 Christmas Bird Count Summary".

Bob Ford, Editor, *The Migrant,* Brownsville, TN

Count Names	MPHS	FACO	REEL	JKSN	SVNH	BGSA	DUCK	PRRY	BUFF	CLRK	NSHV	HKPR	LEBN
Total individuals	12120	3682	298106	10829	34193	15535	145450	15398	6335	5838	5738	7006	4722
Total Species	97	76	120	86	118	102	129	109	85	80	82	82	80
Count Week species	-	-	2	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Observers	26	14	13	8	15	5	20	10	15	20	36	13	14
Parties	11	5	5--7	3--5	9	3	7	5	9	6	9	4	5
Party Hours	52.6	32.75	58.25	43.6	71.5	21	79	45.5	50.5	49	53	35.3	36
Hours by car	11.1	12.75	31	23.5	43	20	25	13	33.75	24.25	18.9	13.3	29.5
Hours by foot	41.5	20	27.25	20.1	28.5	1	53	27	16.75	24.75	34.1	22	2.5
Hours by boat or other	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5.5	-	-	-	-	4
Miles by car	143.8	180	426	124	301	175	140	55	223.1	261.5	220.1	84	290
Miles on foot	29.5	20.5	11.4	302	14.5	2	32	19	8.5	18.5	71.65	17.39	2.5
Miles by boat or other	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	-	-	-	-	4.5
Hours Owling	-	-	2.5	0.5	1.25	-	2	-	3.25	0.5	5.75	2	0.5
Miles Owling	-	-	21	6	8.3	-	14	-	14.9	0.5	23.65	2	1
Feeder / yard watchers	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Feeder / yard hours	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

FRCO	WRRN	WHTE	NKJK	CHAT	HIWA	KNOX	NORR	CADE	GSMT	KGSP	ELIZ	ROAN	BSTL	SHDY	TOTALS
7923	9443	19254	9202	13605	19299	24236	6626	1472	2537	7503	5620	847	6722	3133	702374702374
81	83	88	93	95	97	106	77	49	59	75	85	45	84	61	165
-	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	3	2	1	1	-	1	-	1
18	7	12	10	23	19	62	18	14	28	31	25	10	13	9	508
6	4	-	6	8	6	31	6	6	14	9	6	3	5	4	187
21.6	35.2	47.25	48.75	70	31	126.26	35.25	25.6	62	40.1	50	19	44	32.25	1316.26
21.1	29.45	-	34	36	20	39.38	20.75	11.6	23	18.75	28	6	20	17.5	624.58
0.5	5.57	-	14.75	34	11	83.08	14.5	14	39	21.35	22	13	24	14.75	629.95
-	-	-	-	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.3
248	338.15	-	264	317	184	420.7	211	93.7	175	267	343	75	339	215	6114.05
1	4.05	-	11.6	18	10	63.53	11	10.4	38.2	23	14	10	10	7.5	781.72
-	-	-	-	-	-	6.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24.25
3	2	-	2	5	-	3.62	1.25	-	-	0.75	4	2	3	1	45.87
-	11.5	-	18	-	-	20.5	1.5	-	-	4.5	17	5	36	5	210.35
-	-	-	-	2	-	5	1	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	16
-	-	-	-	2	-	13.47	1.5	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	25.97

MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2018 TOS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

21 April 2018
Chattanooga, Tennessee

The Spring meeting was held 21 April 2018 at the Crash Pad, Green Space and The Wells in Chattanooga, Tennessee and was hosted by the Chattanooga Chapter. Field trips were offered to Cravens House, Guild Trail, River Gardens, Reflecting Riding Gardens and Honors Golf Course.

President Steve Routledge called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm at the Green Space. Secretary Cyndi Routledge determined there was a quorum. The minutes of the Fall 2017 meeting were approved.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

VICE PRESIDENT, WEST TENNESSEE: Dick Preston reported the Memphis Chapter is undertaking support of a MAPS Station at Strawberry Plains Audubon. The chapter will provide volunteers and monetary support.

TREASURER: Mac McWhirter presented the financial and membership reports for the year ended 31 December 2017. Assets of the Society were $363,228 on that date, with the fair market value of investments increasing during the calendar year from $326,455 to $353,232.

Total revenue for 2017 was $55,281, with $11,238 coming from memberships and subscriptions. Individual contributions were $704. The investment income and change in fair market value of the Vanguard portfolio contributed $42,778.

Expenses for 2017 were $22,440. Highlighting a few line items, five issues of *The Migrant* were published for a cost of $13,229, and conservation and research grants and conservation memberships were $4,100. The cost of publishing and distributing three issues of *The Warbler* was $3,003.

The Directors' and Officers' Liability policy was renewed for three years at the same premium cost as the previous period. Combined memberships and subscriptions for 2017 totaled 671, down slightly from 676 in 2016. Several chapters are seeing recent growth, especially the Buffalo River and Kingsport chapters, and the Bristol Bird Club is achieving a good rate of revitalization.

President Steve Routledge announced that after 14 years as Treasurer Mac McWhirter will retire at the end of the year, and Pam Lasley will be taking over on January 1, 2019. Mac will continue to manage the Vanguard accounts.

CURATOR AND WEBMASTER: President Routledge reported on behalf of Curator Chuck Nicholson that he, Rick Blanton and Ashley Heeney are working to create a new webpage with easier access by individual chapters and better coverage of *The Migrant*.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONSERVATION POLICY – Co-chair Dick Preston announced the addition of Kellie Clelland and Laura Cook to the committee.

CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH FUNDING – Chairman Dr. Michael Collins made a request to increase the amount available to the Conservation Research Funding Committee. Mac McWhirter made a motion to allott up to $10,000 on grants beginning in Spring 2019; the motion carried unamimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Cyndi Routledge, coordinator and distributor of the *Discover Birds Activity Book*, reported that about 4800 books remain. Approximately 21,500 books have been distributed to 18 states and 4 Central American Countries. She will be working with David Hanni of Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency regarding funding for future printing.

Steve Routledge provided an update on the Wings of Winter Festival which was held in January and served as the TOS winter meeting. There were approximately 100 participants for this first year. Next year's festival date is set for 18-20 January, 2019. Authors Richard Crossley and Joel Greenberg will be speakers.

Steve Routledge announced the Fall Meeting will be in Manchester, Tennessee, 5-6 October, 2018 hosted by the Highland Rim Chapter.

Susan McWhirter, Susan Hubley, and Anita Gaddy will comprise the new nominating committee. Susan McWhirter nominated Danny Gaddy for the next President. This was accepted by acclamation.

Dick Preston made a motion that TOS match the Chattanooga contribution to Green Space of $100 for their allowing us the use of their facilities for our meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

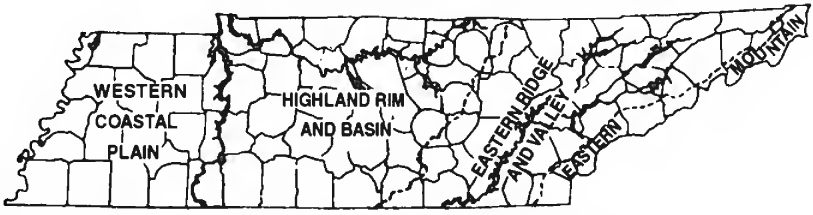
Motion to Adjourn meeting was made by Mac McWhirter. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Cyndi Routledge, Secretary

THE WINTER SEASON

Richard L. Knight, Editor



1 December 2017 - 28 February 2018

The weather this season was fairly consistent from region to region across the state. December saw near normal temperatures, while January was colder than normal and February was much warmer than normal. Precipitation generally was near normal over the first two months, but was notably heavy in February.

This could be called the "winter of the swans" in Tennessee, with multiple sightings and record high counts of three species. Over the last 20 years there have been an average of five swan reports per winter (range = 0 to 12); however, this winter there were 26 reports of swans. The Mute and Trumpeter Swans seen in Tennessee this winter likely were displaced from the Great Lakes region. Additionally, scoters and Long-tailed Ducks occurred in good numbers, as did several other diving ducks.

Two Red-necked Grebes and a Western Grebe were reported. Whooping Cranes appeared in three regions. Gulls were prominent this winter, with a state first Mew Gull, along with sightings of Little, California (2 reports), Iceland, Glaucous (perhaps 5 different individuals), and Great Black-backed gulls. Note that Lesser Black-backed Gulls are now routine wintering birds at several sites. Lake County produced the state's fourth Ferruginous Hawk and 14th Prairie Falcon. Short-eared Owls made a strong showing with reports from ten counties.

Tree Swallows arrived record early and en mass during February, particularly in the Ridge and Valley. A flurry of American Tree Sparrows appeared in Middle Tennessee, with a few spilling over into adjacent regions. Harris's Sparrows occurred at three sites in the Highland Rim and Basin, while another was in the Ridge and Valley. Vagrant songbirds included Common Redpoll and Spotted Towhee in West Tennessee, Western Tanager and Painted Bunting in the mid-state, and Yellow-headed Blackbird in East and Middle Tennessee.

Notable late lingerers included Common Nighthawk, Common Gallinule, Brown Pelican, American Bittern, White-eyed Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo (4 reports), Barn Swallow, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (3), Ovenbird (2), and Black-and-white Warbler. A Green Heron spent its second straight winter in Nashville. The flight of boreal irruptives consisted mainly of Pine Siskins in modest numbers.

Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult
CBC - Christmas Bird Count
Co - County
Cr - Creek
ers - earliest reported sighting
et al. - and others
fide - reported by
im - immature
L - Lake
lrs - latest reported sighting
max - maximum count
m.ob. - many observers
Mtn - Mountain
NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
R - River
SP - State Park
WMA - Wildlife Management Area

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION - - Weather extremes and their effect on birds were the themes for the season. December was slightly warmer than normal, but wetter by nearly 2 inches. January was decidedly colder than normal, being 4 degrees below average, but with average precipitation. Two cold snaps during the month saw overnight temperatures plunge to the single digits, freezing over nearly all but the largest and deepest ponds and lakes. This drove many waterfowl out of the area and concentrated those remaining at the few lakes with any open water. These conditions saw several counties reporting new species or new high numbers. February was much warmer at slightly over 4 degrees above normal, while record rainfall occurred over much of the region, averaging more than 9 inches above historic norms.

The birding highlights of the season included the appearance of all three species of swans and in good numbers. Black Scoter, Red-necked Grebe, and Common Loon made their first appearances in Tipton County. A Ferruginous Hawk in Lake County was a nice find. Short-eared Owls appeared at more locations and in greater numbers than usual. A female Rufous Hummingbird spent three weeks at a feeder in Shelby County. The bird was captured and banded, but, unfortunately, was not seen again after a late December freeze. A Prairie Falcon in Lake County, a Spotted Towhee in Henry County, and a Common Redpoll at a feeder in Shelby County rounded out an exciting season.

Thanks to all those who reported their sightings and, especially, to those who submitted photographs or written details.

Waterfowl: **Snow Goose**: 24 Jan (40,000 +) Obion Co (MAG), max. **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 4 Jan (1) Herb Parson's L (DDP); 4 Jan (3) Edmund Orgill Park, Shelby Co (DDP); unusual at these sites. **Cackling Goose**: 17 Dec (1) Ensley, Shelby Co (Virginia Reynolds); 1 Jan (3) Halle Park, Shelby Co (RH); 2 Jan (5) Edmund Orgill Park, Shelby Co (DDP); 4 Jan (2) Herb Parson's L (DDP); unusual at these sites. **Mute Swan**: 29 Jan - 19 Feb (3-9) Obion Co (MAG, m.ob.). **Trumpeter Swan**: 18 Jan (2 ad, 2 im) Davy Crockett L, Crockett Co (MAG, photo); 25 Jan (3) Lake Co (MAG, photo). **Tundra Swan**: 28 Dec (13) northeast Shelby Co (Gaynell Perry); 3-4 Jan (1) Gibson Co L (MAG); 19 Jan (2) Carroll Co (AT, VS); 21 Jan (25) Co. Line Road, Obion Co (MM, BSc); 25 Jan / 10 Feb (6 / 5) Lake Co (MAG / FJA, KCB); 29 Jan / 2 Feb (2-3) Obion Co (MAG, m.ob.). **swan sp.**: 17 Dec (4)

Shelby Co (Van Harris); 8 Jan (2) Kentucky L, Benton Co (RS, VS, AT); all too distant to ID. **Canvasback**: 6 Jan (1200) Britton Ford (RS); 11 Jan (800) Lauderdale Refuge (RS, VS); 22 Feb (650) Obion Co (MAG); 22 Feb (450) Paris Landing SP (RS); 26 Feb (400) Lake Co (MAG). **Greater Scaup**: 22 Feb (1450) Paris Landing SP (RS), max. **Lesser Scaup**: 22 Feb (1900) Paris Landing SP (RS), max. **Surf Scoter**: 17 Dec / 22 Feb (5 / 2) Paris Landing SP (RS, VS); 22 Feb (1) Reelfoot L (MAG). **White-winged Scoter**: 17 Dec / 6 Jan (1 / 5) Pace Point (RS, VS); 22 Feb (48) Paris Landing SP (RS). **Black Scoter**: 2 Jan (1 male) Gibson Co L (MAG); 18 Jan (1 female) Glen Springs L (DDP), 1st Co record. **Common Goldeneye**: 8 Jan (2000) Pace Point (RS, VS, AT), max. **Common Merganser**: 17 Dec - 22 Feb (max 41 on 6 Jan) Paris Landing SP to Britton Ford (RS, VS, MCT); 2 Jan (4) Gibson Co L (MAG). **Red-breasted Merganser**: 8 Jan (88) Pace Point (RS, VS, AT), max.

Grebe - Egret: **Red-necked Grebe**: 5 Jan (1) Glen Springs L (DDP), 1st Co record. **Rufous Hummingbird**: 8 Dec - 1 Jan (1, banded 10 Dec) Arlington, Shelby Co (Faye Griffin, Freddie Griffin, RH, CR). **Sandhill Crane**: 1 Dec (5) Lauderdale Co (DDP); 25 Dec (80) East Memphis (Scott Heppel); 26 Dec (20) Paris, Henry Co (Robert Wheat); 28 Dec (8) Gibson Co L (MAG); 1 Jan (30) Britton Ford (RS, VS, AT); 6 Jan (32) Shelby Farms (DDP); 11 Jan (7,000) near Hop-In Refuge, Obion Co (RS, VS); 19 / 24 Jan (60 / 40) Gibson Co (MAG); 14-16 Feb (200 - 300) Sharon, Weakley Co (Jeremy Dennison). **Whooping Crane**: 14-16 Feb (1) Sharon, Weakley Co (Jeremy Dennison, photo), with Sandhills. **Dunlin**: 17 Dec (1) North Treatment Plant, Shelby Co (DDP); 1 Jan (1) Britton Ford (RS, VS, AT). **Least Sandpiper**: 8 Jan (5) Ed Davis Fish Farm, Gibson Co (MAG). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 15-20 Jan (1) Shelby Farms (Doug Logan, m.ob., photo). **Greater Yellowlegs**: 26 Feb (3) Tipton Co (DDP); 26 Feb (1) Lake Co (MAG); ers. **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 2 Dec (4) TVA Lake, Shelby Co (John Walko), lrs; 19 Feb (1) North Treatment Plant, Shelby Co (DDP), ers; 26 Feb (8) Tipton Co (DDP); 26 Feb (54) Lake Co (MAG). **Little Gull**: 12 Dec / 22 Feb (1 im / 1 ad) Reelfoot L (MAG). **Iceland Gull**: 21 Feb (1, *thayeri*) Eva Park, on Kentucky L, Benton Co (RS). **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: thru season (1-2) Paris Landing SP to Britton Ford (DDP, RS, m.ob.); 6 Jan (1 ad) Robco L, Shelby Co (DDP). **Glaucous Gull**: 16 Dec (1 im) Reelfoot CBC (MCT, BFo); 17 Dec / 6 - 24 Jan (1 im, joined by a 2nd im on 8-24 Jan) Paris Landing SP / Pace Point (RS, photo, m.ob.); 25 Jan (1 im) Van Works Road, Lake Co (MAG). **Forster's Tern**: 11 Dec / 19-27 Feb (1) Gibson Co L (MAG); 22 Feb (2) Pace Point (RS). **Red-throated Loon**: 17 Dec (3) Big Sandy CBC (RS, VS); 24 Jan (1) Pace Pt (MCT). **Pacific Loon**: 8 Jan (1) Kentucky L, Benton Co (RS, VS, AT). **Common Loon**: 5 Jan (2) Glen Springs L (DDP), 1st Co record. **American White Pelican**: 2 Jan (1) Herb Parson's L (RH), unusual at this site; 22 Feb (120) Britton Ford (RS); 22 Feb (800) Paris Landing SP (RS), max. **Great Egret**: 26 Dec (1) Hatchie NWR (Larry Chitwood).

Osprey - Falcon: **Osprey**: 28 Feb (1) Jackson, Madison Co (MCT), ers. **Bald Eagle**: 4 Jan (4) Herb Parson's L (DDP), unusual at this site. **Northern Goshawk**: 8 Jan (1) Gibson Co (MAG). **Red-tailed Hawk**: besides the Eastern *borealis*, the following sub-species were found wintering in northwest Tennessee this season: Harlan's, Krider's, *calurus*, and *abieticola* (MAG, RS, VS). **Rough-legged Hawk**: 12 Dec (1) Lake Co (MAG); 17 Jan - 21

Feb (1) Everett airport, Obion Co (MAG, m.ob.); 25 Jan - 2 Feb (1) Jolly Landing, Lake Co (MAG). **FERRUGINOUS HAWK**: 25-26 Jan (1 im) Jolly Landing, Lake Co (MAG, photo), 4th state record. **Golden Eagle**: 18 Dec (1) Paris Landing SP (JH); 8 Jan (1) Pace Point (RS, VS, AT); 22 Jan (1) Obion Co (MAG); 24 Jan (2) Bennett's Cr, Henry Co (MCT). **Long-eared Owl**: 11 Jan (2) Obion Co (RS, VS). **Short-eared Owl**: 16 Dec (4) Reelfoot CBC; 17 Dec - 3 Mar (1-8) Shelby Farms (DDP, m.ob.); 4 Jan (1) Ripley, Obion Co (MAG); 4 Jan (4) Lake Co (MAG); 18 Jan (1) Arlington, Shelby Co (Larry Chitwood); 19 Jan (1) Everett airport, Obion Co (RS, VS, AT); 19 Jan (2) North Garrett Sawmill Road, Obion Co (MAG); 25 Jan / 9 Feb (6) Bogota WMA (MAG / FJA, KCB). **Merlin**: 3 Jan (1) Hop-In Refuge, Obion Co (MAG); 5-31 Jan (1) Shelby Farms (RH, DDP, Bob Zaremba); 11 Jan / 9 Feb (1) Bogota WMA (RS, VS / FJA, KCB); 17 Jan (1) Shelby Co (DDP). **Peregrine Falcon**: 23 Dec (1) Hatchie NWR (Bob Ford, Martha Lyle Ford); 12 Jan (1) Memphis (BFo); 9 Feb (1) Bogota WMA (FJA, KCB); 26 Feb (1) Lauderdale Refuge (DDP). **Prairie Falcon**: 26 Jan (1) Lake Co (MAG).

Vireo - Siskin: **Blue-headed Vireo**: 17 Dec (3) Memphis CBC; 19 Dec (1) Wolf River WMA, Fayette Co (DDP); 19 Feb (1) Tipton Co (DDP). **Purple Martin**: 23 Feb (1) Shelby Co (Mary Schmidt), ers. **Tree Swallow**: 13 Feb (3) Haywood Co (Bob Ford), ers. **Barn Swallow**: 16 Dec (1) Reelfoot CBC (MCT, BFo). **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 9 Dec (1) Herb Parsons L (DDP), only report. **Marsh Wren**: 22 Feb (1) Reelfoot L (MAG). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 2 Dec (1) Hatchie NWR (Allan Trently). **Gray Catbird**: 17 Dec (1) Big Sandy CBC; 15 Jan (1) Fayette Co (RH). **American Pipit**: 5 Jan (300) Trenton, Gibson Co (MAG), max. **COMMON REDPOLL**: 21-22 Dec (1, at feeder) Collierville, Shelby Co (Thomas Blevins, photo). **Pine Siskin**: 12 Jan (78, at feeder) Munford (DDP), max; 22 Feb (36, at feeder) Henry Co (RS).

Longspur - Bunting: **Lapland Longspur**: 1 Dec (11) Sunk Lake, Lauderdale Co (DDP); 4 Jan (150) Lake Co (MAG); 11 Jan (27) Lauderdale Refuge (RS, VS); 11 Jan (40) Dyer Co (RS, VS); 15 Jan (5) Gibson Co (MAG); 19 Jan (5) Ensley, Shelby Co (RH, Hal Mitchell); 20 Jan (300) Henry Co (CR et al.); 22 Jan (25) Dyer Co (MAG); 5 Feb (11) Shelby Co (DDP). **American Tree Sparrow**: 17-19 Dec (1-2) Britton Ford (RS, JH); 22 Jan (1) Dyer Co (MAG). **LeConte's Sparrow**: 1 Dec / 11 Jan (1 / 2) Lauderdale Co (DDP / RS, VS); 11 Dec (6) Busseltown Unit, Decatur Co (Daniel Redwine, photo); 1 Jan / 4 Feb (2) Shelby Farms (BFo); 22 Feb (1) Britton Ford (RS). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 20 / 26 Dec (1) Munford (DDP); 24 Dec (1) Forked Deer Refuge, Madison Co (Bryan Sharp); 13 Jan (1) Camden WMA, Benton Co (RS, VS, AT); 3 Feb (1) Reelfoot L (DDP). **SPOTTED TOWHEE**: 24 Jan (1) Big Sandy Unit, Henry Co (MCT). **Western Meadowlark**: 11 Jan (1) Dyer Co (RS, VS); 19 Jan (1-2 at 2 sites) Obion Co (MAG); 26 Jan (24) Lake Co (MAG); 29 Jan (6) Lauderdale Co (MCT). **Brewer's Blackbird**: 29 Jan (125) Obion Co (MCT), max. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 1 Dec (1) Paris, Henry Co (Robert Wheat); 9 Dec (1) Munford (DDP); 2 Jan (1) Dyer Co (Kathy Sellars); 21 Feb (1) Obion Co (MAG); plus several reports from Shelby Co (m.ob.). **Common Yellowthroat**: 16 Dec (1) Reelfoot CBC; 17 Dec (1) Memphis CBC; 29 Dec (1) John Porter WMA, Fayette Co (RH, photo); 31 Dec (1 female) Memphis (BFo). **Indigo**

Bunting: 3 Feb (1, window kill) Memphis Zoo (J. Fields Falcone, photo).

Locations: Bogota WMA - Dyer Co; Britton Ford - Henry Co; Glen Springs L - Tipton Co; Hatchie NWR - Haywood Co; Herb Parsons L - Fayette Co; Lauderdale Refuge - Lauderdale Co; Munford - Tipton Co; Pace Point - Henry Co; Paris Landing SP - Henry Co; Reelfoot L - Lake and Obion Cos; Shelby Farms - Shelby Co.

DICK D. PRESTON, 261 Sassafras Circle, Munford, TN 38058.
dickpreston@rittermail.com

HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION - - Temperatures were near normal in December and slightly below average (- 1.6 degrees) in January, but much warmer than normal (+ 8.4 degrees) in February. Precipitation was near normal in December and below average (- 2.2 inches) in February, but much wetter than normal (+ 6.97 inches) in February.

With this winter being an irruption year for Snowy Owls, hopes were high for one to show up in Tennessee. One did, but unfortunately it was a one-day-wonder photographed by a fisherman at Land Between the Lakes. Cackling Geese appeared in several counties this winter. Mute, Trumpeter, and Tundra Swans were seen beginning in January. Duck highlights included Eurasian Wigeon, all three scoters, Long-tailed Duck, and good numbers of Common Mergansers. California, Glaucous, and Great Black-backed Gulls were seen. Raptor highlights included a Northern Goshawk, plus several Golden Eagles and Short-eared Owls. Also of interest were a Western Tanager and Painted Bunting, plus three Harris's Sparrows, and an invasion of American Tree Sparrows.

Goose - Swan: **Snow Goose**: 31 Dec (70) Fowler Rd (CA); 25 Dec (17, flying over) Murfreesboro (CW); 30 Dec (1) MTSU ponds, Rutherford Co (CW, NW); 31 Dec (7) Cannon Co (CA); 1-7 Jan (4) VA Hospital pond, Rutherford Co (CW); 18 Jan (2) Coleman Pond, Davidson Co (PDC, MS); 9 Feb (1) Percy Priest Field Trial Area, Rutherford Co (SZ); 16 Feb (19) Montgomery Co (SA); 17 Feb (4) White Co (RSh, DSh); 20 Feb - 11 Mar (7) Putnam Co (Michele Ramsey); 23 Feb (2) Eagleville (SZ). **Ross's Goose**: 2 Dec (1) White Co (RSh, DSh); 3 Dec (1) Drake's Cr (MS); 16 Dec / 2 Jan (1 / 2) Perry Co (RS, VS); 25 Dec / 23 Feb (3 / 2) Eagleville (CW, NW / SZ); 31 Dec (1) Cannon Co (CA); 1 Jan / 9 Feb (4 / 1) Percy Priest Field Trial Area, Rutherford Co (SZ); 1-7 Jan (1) VA Hospital pond, Rutherford Co (CW); 3-4 Jan (1) L. Karen (SNM); 4 Jan (1) Dunbar Cave SP (CR); 10 Jan (2) Cane Cr Park, Putnam Co (Mark Taylor); 14 Jan (1) Fowler Rd (MM, BSc); 15 Jan (1) Bedford Co (MM); 18 Jan (4) Coleman Pond, Davidson Co (PDC, MS); 11 Feb (3) Montgomery Co (SA). **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 5 Dec (1) Dunbar Cave SP (JH); 18 Dec - 27 Jan (30-87) Fowler Rd (DSn, m.ob.); 5-18 Jan (9) L Karen (SNM); 9-11 Jan (6) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd, Nashville (MM). **Cackling Goose**: 16 Dec (2) Perry Co (RS, VS); 30 Dec - 15 Jan (17) MTSU ponds, Rutherford Co (CW, SZ, m.ob.); 31 Dec (3) Williamson Co (JAr); 31 Dec / 6 Jan (4 / 8) Drake's Cr (MS); 1 Jan (50) Cross Cr NWR (Stanley York); 7 Jan (5) Bedford Co (SZ); 13 Jan (460) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT), max; 11 Feb (11) Eagleville (Nancy Robb). **Mute Swan**: 8 Jan - 5 Feb (2) Cross Cr NWR (CR, m.ob.). **Trumpeter Swan**:

21 Jan (1) Cross Cr NWR (RS, VS, AT). **Tundra Swan**: 15 Jan - 6 Feb (5-25) Duck R Unit (AT, MM, m.ob.); 21 Jan (29) Cross Cr NWR (RDH, DMy, m.ob.), new high count in state; 25 Jan - 27 Feb (1 im) Dickson Co (AT, RS, VS, m.ob.).

Ducks: **Eurasian Wigeon**: 12 Dec - 22 Jan (1 male, joined by a 2nd male on 21-24 Jan) Duck R Unit (refuge staff, AT, photo, m.ob.). **Mallard X Northern Pintail**: 19 Jan (1 male) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd., Nashville (FF); 22 Jan (1 male) Duck R Unit (AT). **Blue-winged Teal**: 23 Dec (1) Duck R Unit (AT). **Canvasback**: 7 Jan (20) Woods Reservoir (CW); 3 Feb (16) Percy Priest L (PDC, FF, MS); 13 Feb (35) Jackson L, Williamson Co (JAr); 17-28 Feb (230-265) Pickwick L (RS); 17 Feb (10) White Co (RSh, DSh); 18 Feb (12) Hillsboro Pond, Coffee Co (RSh, DSh); 23 Feb (25) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (CA, MS, GG, JSt); 24 Feb (73) Fowler Rd (DJS). **Redhead**: 24 Feb (84) Fowler Rd (DJS), max. **Greater Scaup**: 3 / 19 Feb (55 / 25) Percy Priest L (PDC, FF, MS / RHC); 23 Feb (35) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (CA, MS, GG, JSt); 24 Feb (5) Fowler Rd (DJS); 25 Feb (9) Edgar Evins SP (Mark Taylor); 28 Feb (12) Pickwick L (RS, VS). **Lesser Scaup**: 23 Feb (550) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (CA, MS, GG, JSt), max. **Surf Scoter**: 25 Dec / 3 Jan (8 / 1) Pickwick L (Barbara Korpi, photo / RS); 8 Jan (1) Old Hickory L (CA); 18 Feb (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS). **White-winged Scoter**: 4-31 Dec (1) Fowler Rd (DSn, m.ob.); 3 Jan / 17-28 Feb (4 / 2-9) Pickwick L (RS, VS, MAG, MCT); 15 Jan / 14-23 Feb (1 / 4-13) Percy Priest L (FF / RHC, JKS); 28 Jan (1) Woods Reservoir (Kristy Baker); 23 Feb (5) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (CA, MS, GG, JSt). **Black Scoter**: 3 Jan / 18 Feb (4 / 1) Pickwick L (RS / DDP); 18 Feb (2 males) Duck R Unit (RS, VS). **Long-tailed Duck**: 2-3 Jan / 17 Feb (2-11 / 5) Pickwick L (RS, MAG, MCT, VS). **Common Goldeneye**: 7 Jan (343) Woods Reservoir (CW), max; 3 Feb (42) Percy Priest L (PDC, FF, MS). **Common Merganser**: 18 Dec / 6 Jan (6 females / pair) Edgar Evins SP, DeKalb Co (Mark Taylor); 22 Dec (pair) Tennessee R, Humphreys Co (VS); 23 Dec - 31 Jan (1-3 females) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT); 3 Jan (1 female) Pickwick L (RS); 5-27 Jan / 24 Feb (1-2) Fowler Rd (Evan Buck, DSn / DJS); 5 Jan (1 female) Tennessee R, Perry Co (RS, VS); 7 Jan (10 females) Woods Reservoir (CW); 8-21 Jan (6-11) Cross Cr NWR (CR, m.ob.). **Red-breasted Merganser**: 19 Feb (52) Percy Priest L (RHC), max.

Grebe - Tern: **Horned Grebe**: 26 Dec (576) Woods Reservoir (CW, NW), max; 20 Jan (415) Percy Priest L (PDC, FF, MS). **Red-necked Grebe**: 23 Feb into Mar (1) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (Rachel Gordon / CA, MS, GG, JSt, photo, m.ob.). **Common Ground-Dove**: 2 Dec (1) Fowler Rd (DSn). **Sandhill Crane**: 9 Dec (40) Stones R National Battlefield, Rutherford Co (Bob Ingle); 13 Dec - 11 Feb (max 137 on 31 Jan) Eagleville (Hugh Barger, m.ob.); 25 Dec (11) Nashville (JAr); 27 Dec (174) Warren Co (SNM); 28 Dec (58) Percy Priest L (RHC); 8 / 11 Feb (64 / 186) Montgomery Co (SA, JH); 31 Jan (44) Williamson Co (Hugh Barger); 8 Feb (682, at roost) Fountain Grove, Coffee Co (SNM); 18 Feb (445) Wilson Co (JN). **Whooping Crane**: 16 Dec (3, flying over) Perry Co CBC (VS, photo), 1st Co record. **Dunlin**: 23 Dec (1) Duck R Unit CBC; 4 Jan (1) Cuba Landing, Humphreys Co (Allan Trently). **Least Sandpiper**: 8 Jan (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT). **American Woodcock**: 26 Feb (11) Fort Campbell (DMo), max. **Spotted Sandpiper**: 23 Dec (2) Duck R Unit CBC. **Greater Yellowlegs**: 16-18 Dec (1) Clay L, Wilson Co (JN, photo). **CALIFORNIA GULL**:

17 Feb (1 ad) Pickwick L (MAG, MCT, RS, VS). **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 8 Jan (1 ad) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (MM, m.ob.); 26 Jan (1) Percy Priest L, Rutherford Co (Nancy Robb); 17-28 Feb (1) Pickwick L (MAG, MCT, RS, VS). **Glaucous Gull**: 17-28 Feb (1 im) Pickwick L (MAG, MCT, RS, VS). **Herring X Glaucous Gull**: 28 Feb (1 im) Pickwick L (RS, VS, photo). **Great Black-backed Gull**: 8 Jan (1 im) Old Hickory L (CA, photo). **Forster's Tern**: 17 Feb (5) Pickwick L (RS, VS).

Loon - Falcon: **Red-throated Loon**: 26 Dec - 15 Jan (1-2) Woods Reservoir (CW); 6 Jan (1) Duck R Unit (RS); 20 Jan (1) Percy Priest L (PDC, FF, MS); 28 Feb (8) Pickwick L (RS, VS). **Common Loon**: 7 Jan (174) Woods Reservoir (CW), max. **American White Pelican**: 3 Dec / 6 Jan (26 / 21) Drake's Cr (MS); 16 Dec (2) Woods Reservoir (SZ et al.); 24 Dec (14) Murfreesboro (CW); 7 Jan (34) Gallatin Steam Plant, Sumner Co (MS); 8 Jan / 5 Feb (34 / 75) Cross Cr NWR (CR); 6 Feb (92) Percy Priest L, Rutherford Co (RHC); 18 Feb (92) Pickwick L (DDP); 18 Feb (650) Duck R Unit (RS, VS). **American Bittern**: 2 Dec (1) Shelby Bottoms, Davidson Co (Paul Maloney, photo). **Great Egret**: 3 Dec (1) Drake's Cr (MS); 30 Dec (1) Murfreesboro (CW); 7 Jan (2) Gallatin Steam Plant, Sumner Co (MS). **Green Heron**: 16 Dec into Mar (1) Centennial Park, Davidson Co (Cheryl Hiers, FF), where one wintered last year. **Osprey**: 22 Feb (1) Pickwick L (Randy Schultz), ers. **Northern Harrier**: 28 Jan (16) Shelton Ferry WMA, Montgomery Co (Stefan Woltmann), max; 20 Feb (14) Eagleville (RHC, JKS). **Northern Goshawk**: 23 Dec (1 im) Duck R Unit CBC (AT). **Rough-legged Hawk**: 19 Jan (1) Cross Cr NWR (MM, m.ob.). **Golden Eagle**: 12 Dec - 18 Feb (1-2) Duck R Unit (AT, RS, VS, m.ob.); 2 Jan (1 ad) Pickwick L (RS); 5 Jan (1 im) L Karen (SNM, N.P. McWhirter); 8 Jan / 5 Feb (1) Cross Cr NWR (CR); 20 Jan (1 ad, 1 im) Perry Co (RS, VS); 24 Jan (1 im) Barkley WMA, Stewart Co (Melodie Cunningham, photo). **SNOWY OWL**: 17 Dec (1) Land Between the Lakes, Stewart Co (Knox Goostree). **Short-eared Owl**: 16 Dec (1) Perry Co CBC; 19 Dec / 26 Feb (2 / 5) Fort Campbell (DMo); 23 Dec - 18 Feb (1-2) Duck R Unit (Adam Beachy, RS, m.ob.); 28 Dec (1) Dunbar Cave SP (SA); 24 Dec - 3 Mar (1-2) Eagleville (Daniel Estabrooks, m.ob.); 2 Jan (1) Savannah Bottoms, Hardin Co (DJS). **Merlin**: 16 Dec (1) Wilson Co (JN); 17 Dec (1) Humphreys Co (AT); 18 Dec - 4 Feb (1) Eagleville (Jackie Corbin, CW, m.ob.); 18 Dec (1) Fowler Rd (Evan Buck); 24 Dec (1) Bell's Bend (RS, VS); 31 Dec (1) Williamson Co (JAr); 6 Jan (1) Anderson Rd Rec Area, Davidson Co (GG); 8 Jan (1) Cross Cr NWR (CR); 15 Jan / 23 Feb (1) Perry Co (AT / RS, VS); 27 Jan (1) Nashville (FF et al.); 2 Feb (1) Smithville, DeKalb Co (MM). **Peregrine Falcon**: 23 Dec (2) Duck R Unit CBC; 27 Dec (1) Boiling Pond, White Co (RDH, DMy); 15 Jan (1) Woods Reservoir (CW); 19 Feb (1) New Johnsonville, Humphreys Co (RS).

Crow - Sparrow: **Fish Crow**: 16 / 26 Dec (2 / 1) Woods Reservoir (SZ et al. / CW). **Purple Martin**: 16 Feb (1) Perry Co (fide VS), ers. **Tree Swallow**: 4 Feb (1) City L, Putnam Co (Michele Ramsey, photo), ers; 24 Feb (22) Duck R Unit (RS, VS), max. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 1 Jan (1) Nashville (GG), only report. **Brown-headed Nuthatch**: 23 Feb (2) New Johnsonville, Humphreys Co (VS), 1st Co record. **House Wren**: 6-26 Dec (1) Bell's Bend (FF, PDC, MS); 19 Dec (1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 22 Dec (1) Humphreys Co (VS). **Sedge Wren**: thru season (1) Perry Co (RS, VS, AT); 19 Dec (3) Fort Campbell (DMo); 19

Feb (1) Humphreys Co (RS, VS). **Marsh Wren**: 23 Dec (1) Duck R Unit CBC. **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 23 Dec (1) Duck R Unit CBC (AT). **Purple Finch**: thru season (1-16) Perry Co (RS), max. **Pine Siskin**: 1 Feb (50) Wayne Co (Jud Johnston); 24 Feb (84) Perry Co (RS, VS), max. **Lapland Longspur**: 21 / 25 Dec (15-20) Eagleville (Daniel Estabrooks / CW, NW); 12-15 Jan (40-85) Perry Co (RS, AT); 13-17 Jan (30-40) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT); 20 Jan (1) Bell's Bend (JAr, m.ob.); 21 Jan (30) Cross Cr NWR (RS, VS, AT). **American Tree Sparrow**: 19 Dec (2) Fort Campbell (DMo); 31 Dec (1) Dickson Co (Caitlyn King); 4 Jan (1) Perry Co (RS, VS); 13-16 Jan (1-3) Sumner Co (Ken Oeser); 13-14 Jan (1-2 at 3 sites) Wilson Co (JN, SZ); 13-17 Jan (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT); 13-14 Jan (2) Rutherford Co (Kristy Baker, photo); 16-17 Jan (1) Montgomery Co (Rebecca Johansen); 20 Jan (10) Shelton Ferry WMA, Montgomery Co (Stefan Woltmann, photo); 21 / 28 Jan (1) Bell's Bend (RS / Melinda Welton); 24 Jan (2) Cheatham Co (RHC). **Vesper Sparrow**: 2 Dec (1) Lincoln Co (DSn); thru season (2-3) Perry Co (RS, VS). **LeConte's Sparrow**: 16 Dec (10) Perry Co CBC; 17 Dec / 8 Jan / 27 Feb (1-3) Humphreys Co (AT, RS, VS). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 16 Dec (1) Perry Co CBC; 23 Dec (2) Duck R Unit CBC. **Harris's Sparrow**: 6 Dec - 2 Mar (1 ad) Bell's Bend (FF, photo, m.ob.); 17-23 Dec (1 im) Humphreys Co (AT, photo); 21 Dec (1 im) Perry Co (AT, RS, VS, photo).

Blackbird - Bunting: **Yellow-headed Blackbird**: 27 Jan (1 im male) Fowler Rd (DSn). **Western Meadowlark**: 16 Dec (1) Perry Co CBC. **Brewer's Blackbird**: 25 Dec (1 female) Eagleville (CW, NW); 15 Jan (27) Humphreys Co (AT). **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 1 Dec (1) Crooked Branch Park, Davidson Co (FF); 21 Dec (1) Sumner Co (Jerry Webb); 1 Jan (2) west Nashville (GG); 2 Jan / 4 Feb (1) Pickwick Dam (RS / Daniel Redwine); 11 Jan (1) Nashville (JKS). **Palm Warbler**: 1-31 Dec (1-2) Fowler Rd (DSn, m.ob.); 16 Dec (1) Woods Reservoir (SZ et al.);14 Jan (1) Rutherford Co (CW). **Yellow-throated Warbler**: 31 Dec / 5 Jan (1) Nashville (photo on eBird). **WESTERN TANAGER**: 15-16 Jan (1) Wilson Co (Carolyn Johansson, photo). **PAINTED BUNTING**: 12-16 Dec (1 ad male) Gallatin, Sumner Co (fide Jerry Webb, photo).

Locations: Bell's Bend - Davidson Co; Cross Cr NWR - Stewart Co; Drake's Cr - Sumner Co; Duck R Unit - unit of Tennessee NWR, Humphreys Co; Dunbar Cave SP - Montgomery Co; Eagleville - Rutherford Co; Fowler Rd - irrigation pond in Lincoln Co; L Karen - Warren Co; Old Hickory L - Davidson Co (unless specified otherwise); Percy Priest L - Davidson Co (unless specified otherwise); Pickwick L - Hardin Co; Woods Reservoir - Franklin Co.

STEPHEN C. ZIPPERER, 3105 Chapel Hills Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129
stczipperer@gmail.com

CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE and VALLEY REGION - - Temperatures this season were quite variable. December had near normal temperatures, but January was colder than normal, and February was the warmest on record. Two examples from the Tri-cities showcase the extremes: From 31 December through 6 January the area experienced seven straight days with continuous sub-freezing temperatures, representing the second

longest streak of this type on record. Then from 18-24 February there were seven straight days of 70+ degree temperatures (including three days of 80+ degrees), for the longest such streak in that month. Precipitation for the season as a whole was near normal, although little snow fell.

Waterfowl highlights were many, including impressive numbers of geese and swans, good numbers of scoters and Long-tailed Ducks, plus above average numbers of Canvasbacks, Redheads, and Greater Scaup. A Mew Gull at Watts Bar Dam was the first for Tennessee. Birders searching for it the next day found a California Gull, the first for East Tennessee. Other rarities for the regon included Western Grebe, two Pacific Loons, two *Plegadis* ibises, Lark Sparrow, Harris's Sparrow, and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Arrival dates for Tree Swallows continue to come earlier. Amazingly, reports this year at six sites in the region occurred on or before the previous early arrival date for the state! American Tree Sparrows at two sites in the region were part of the flight centered in Middle Tennessee. Remarkable numbers of Orange-crowned Warblers were found again this winter, particularly in Knox and Hamilton counties. Boreal irruptives were generally scarce, with modest numbers of Pine Siskins found mainly west and south of Knoxville. Notable lingering migrants included Common Nighthawk, Sora, Common Gallinule, White-eyed Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Marsh Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ovenbird, and Black-and-white Warbler.

Geese and Swans: **Snow Goose**: more than 25 reports from Bledsoe, Blount, Bradley, Greene, Hamilton, Hawkins, Loudon, McMinn, Meigs, Polk, Roane, Scott, Sequatchie, Sullivan and Washington Cos; highest counts: 26 Dec / 5 Feb (16 / 24) Hiwassee Refuge (JaW / TLR); 7 Jan (12) Sullivan Co (TSM); 4-6 Feb (21) Fort Loudoun L (Jean Alexander, David Johnson, m.ob.); 12 Feb (11) John Sevier L (SHu). **Ross's Goose**: 6 Dec (1) Middlebrook L, Sullivan Co (RLK); 11-13 Dec (2) Cove Lake SP (Nell Moore); 12 Dec - 4 Feb (1) Tennessee R, Knox Co (Colin Sumrall, m.ob.); 27 Dec (1) Chattanooga (BD); 27 Dec - 5 Jan (1) Ooltewah, Hamilton Co (Andrew Theus, David Hollie); 1 Jan (6) Hiwassee CBC; 4-6 Jan (11) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy, CE); 7 Jan (6) Sullivan Co (TSM); 20-21 Jan (2) Pellissippi State campus, Knox Co (Colin Sumrall); 12-14 Feb (1) Sequatchie Co (RSh, DSh). **Ross's X Snow Goose**: 22 Feb - 11 Mar (1) Camp Jordan, Hamilton Co (BD, photo, m.ob.). **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 9 Dec (4) Greene Co (Mike Sanders et al.); 10 Dec / 14 Jan (1) Tennessee R, Knox Co (CJW, m.ob.); 27 Dec (6 / 2) separate sites in Bledsoe Co (RSh, DSh); 30 Dec / 27 Jan (2 / 1) Hiwassee Refuge (Charles Murray / TSM); 3 Jan (2) Cleveland, Bradley Co (RHo); 9 Jan (7) John Sevier L (SHu); 22 Jan (1) Kingsport (RLK); 27 Jan (16) Greene Co (David Kirschke); 3 Feb (25) Hiwassee Refuge (David Buehler et al.); 10-21 Feb (1) Polk Co (RDH, DMy, m.ob.); 13-18 Feb (1-4) Eagle Bend (Bates Estabrooks, BSc); 18 Feb (2) Sevierville, Sevier Co (Chris Myers). **Cackling Goose**: 10 Dec (1) Tennessee R, Knox Co (CJW); 19 Jan (4) Cove Lake SP (Doug Raybuck); 23 Jan - 7 Feb (1) Alcoa, Blount Co (Chris Cannon, m.ob., photo); 19 Feb (1) Lackey Cr, Blount Co (Warren Bielenberg), same as the other Blount Co bird? **Mute Swan**: 5 Jan - 12 Feb (5-6) Melton Hill L (CE, m.ob.); 20 Jan - 1 Feb (9) Boone L (Harriet Baker fide HLF, m.ob.); 12-16 Feb (13) White's Cr arm of Watts Bar L (MM, m.ob.), new high count in state. **Trumpeter Swan**: 4-6 Jan (4 im) Melton Hill L (CE, Eric Bodker, m.ob.,

photos); 5-9 Jan (1 ad) French Broad R, Cocke Co (KW, photos, m.ob.). **Tundra Swan**: 15 Dec - 5 Feb (1-7) Hiwassee Refuge (Charles Murray, MM, BSc, m.ob.); 25-28 Dec (1) South Holston R, Sullivan Co (RLK, m.ob.); 12-16 Feb (1) White's Cr arm of Watts Bar L (MM, m.ob.). **swan sp.**: 9 Jan (1 im) John Sevier L (SHu).

Ducks: **Blue-winged Teal**: 26 Dec (1) Hamilton Co (Libby Wolfe); 31 Jan (2) Bowater Ponds, McMinn Co (RDH, DMy); 25 Feb (1) Amnicola Marsh (BD). **Canvasback**: 1 Jan (4) Fort Patrick Henry L (BFi, SQ); 6 Jan - 11 Feb (20-150) Hiwassee Refuge (m.ob.); 6 Jan (20) Melton Hill L (Murray Wade); 15 Jan - 17 Feb (1-2) Paddle Cr pond (RBB, RMC, m.ob.); 11 Feb (220) Chickamauga L (BD); 3 Feb (100) L Hiawatha, Cumberland Co (EKL); 6 Feb (320) Bennett's L, Marion Co (TLR). **Redhead**: 4 Jan (35) Melton Hill L (CE); 5 Jan (20) Holston R, Hawkins Co (SHu); 6 Jan (30) Powell R, Campbell Co (Jonathan Grainger); 11 Jan (61) Hamblen Co (Jeff Lemons); 15 Jan - 17 Feb (max 76) Paddle Cr pond (RBB, RMC, m.ob.); 30 Jan (80) L Hiawatha, Cumberland Co (EKL); 4 Feb (300) Nickajack L (BD); 11-21 Feb (400-600) Chickamauga L (BD); 17 Feb (197) Fort Loudoun L, Loudon Co (BSc, RDH, DMy). **Greater Scaup**: 16 Jan (3) Kingsport (FRC); 6-15 Feb (3-5) Paddle Cr pond (RLK, m.ob.); 10 Feb (10) Douglas L (Jeffrey Bailey); 17 Feb (40) Fort Loudoun L, Loudon Co (BSc, RDH, DMy). **Lesser Scaup**: 9 Jan (700) Nickajack L (BD); 13 Feb (1200) Chickamauga L (BD); max. **Surf Scoter**: 26 Dec / 19-27 Feb (2-3) Chickamauga L (Libby Wolfe, m.ob.). **White-winged Scoter**: 2 Dec - 14 Feb (1-14) Nickajack L (TLR, m.ob.); 7 Jan / 6 Feb (3 / 5) Fort Loudoun L (MM, m.ob.); 11 Jan - 13 Feb (1-25) Douglas L (KW, BSc, MM, m.ob.); 7-26 Feb (1-4) Chickamauga L (DRJ, m.ob.); 17-23 Feb (2) Fort Loudoun L, Loudon Co (BSc, RDH, DMy). **Black Scoter**: 8 Jan - 20 Feb (1 male, plus 2 females on 11-20 Feb) Chickamauga L (BD, m.ob.); 4 Feb (1 female) Nickajack L (TLR, Jeffrey Schaarschmidt). **Long-tailed Duck**: 5-9 Jan (1) Fort Loudoun L (MM); 7 Jan - 3 Feb (1) Chickamauga L (KAC, DRJ, m.ob.); 27 Jan - 13 Feb (1-5) Douglas L (BSc, KW, m.ob.); 29 Jan (3) Cherokee L, Grainger Co (RDH, DMy); 6 Feb (2) John Sevier L (SHu); 6 Feb (2) Paddle Cr pond (RLK); 13 Feb (1) Fort Patrick Henry L (BFi, SQ). **Common Goldeneye**: 7 Jan (100) Chickamauga L (KAC), max. **Common Merganser**: 15 Dec / 1 Jan (1 / 5) Fort Patrick Henry L (RS, VS / RLK); 30 Dec (4) Boone L (RLK, Rick Blanton), on Kingsport CBC; 31 Dec (3) Steele Cr Park, Sullivan Co (RLK), on Bristol CBC; 1-31 Jan (1-7) Beaver Cr, Sullivan Co (RRK, m.ob.); 1-9 Jan (4-16) South Holston R, Sullivan Co (HLF, RLK); 3-15 Jan (2-11) John Sevier L (SHu); 7-14 Jan (1-6) Fort Loudoun L (MM, m.ob.); 13 Jan (6) Kingsport (SQ, BFi); 24 Jan (4) Watauga R, Washington Co (RLK, Jacki Hinshaw); 30 Jan - 5 Feb (10-19) L Tansi, Cumberland Co (EKL); 1 Feb (13) Nolichucky R, Washington Co (FJA, KCB); 15 Feb (6) White's Cr arm of Watts Bar L (RDH, DMy); 18 Feb (1) Big South Fork R, Scott Co (Tom Blount).

Grebe - Tern: **Horned Grebe**: 7 Jan (160) Douglas L (KW), max. **WESTERN GREBE**: 11 Jan (1) Douglas L, Jefferson Co portion (KW). **Common Nighthawk**: 5 Dec (2) UT campus, Knox Co (CJW), continuing trend in recent years of early winter sightings at this site. **Rufous Hummingbird**: 1 Jan (1) Farragut, Knox Co (MM, BSc et al.), continuing winter bird; thru season (1) Hamilton Co (fide KAC), apparently present for 5th straight winter.

Virginia Rail: thru season (1-2) Standifer Gap Marsh (TLR, KAC); 15 Feb (1) Kingsport (Bill Grigsby). **Sora**: 24 Dec (1) Alcoa, Blount Co (Tom Howe); 30 Dec (1) UT Plant Sciences Farm, Knox Co (MM et al.), on Knoxville CBC. **Common Gallinule**: 16-17 Dec (1) John Sevier L (SHu), continuing from Nov. **Sandhill Crane**: 13 Dec (55) White Pine, Jefferson Co (Allen Welch); 15 Dec - 19 Feb (6-17) Lackey Cr, Blount Co (RW); 17 Dec (2) John Sevier L (SHu); all east of usual areas. **Whooping Crane**: 26 Dec - 5 Feb (1-2) Hiwassee Refuge (JaW, m.ob.). **Killdeer**: 19 Dec (2 ad with 1 chick) UTC campus, Hamilton Co (David Aborn), record late date for evidence of breeding (according to the Breeding Bird Atlas). **Dunlin**: 28 Dec into Mar (2-25) South Mouse Cr, Bradley Co (RHo, MM, BSc), regular wintering site. **Least Sandpiper**: 28 Dec into Mar (10-55) South Mouse Cr, Bradley Co (RHo, MM, BSc), regular wintering site. **Greater Yellowlegs**: 8 Feb (2) Tennessee R, Knox Co (Susan Hoyle), ers. **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 24 Feb (1) Paddle Cr pond (Anna Wiebelhauser, RRK), new early arrival date in NE Tenn by more than a week. **Bonaparte's Gull**: 7 Jan (6,000) Douglas L (KW), max. **MEW GULL**: 15 Feb (1, second cycle) Watts Bar Dam (BD, photo), 1st state record. **Ring-billed Gull**: 7 Jan (9,000) Douglas L (KW); 15-16 Feb (10,000) Watts Bar Dam (BD, m.ob.); max. **CALIFORNIA GULL**: 16 Feb (1 im) Watts Bar Dam (RS, photo, m.ob.), 1st East Tenn record. **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 21-22 Dec (1 ad) Nickajack L (BD); 16-17 Feb (1 ad, 1 im) Watts Bar Dam (MM, m.ob., photo). **Forster's Tern**: 1 Jan (1) Hiwassee CBC (TLR, Jeffrey Schaarschmidt).

Loon - Falcon: **Red-throated Loon**: 19 Jan - 21 Feb (1) Chickamauga L (BD, m.ob.); 26 Jan - 3 Feb (1) Douglas L (KW). **Pacific Loon**: 19 Jan - 21 Feb (1) Chickamauga L (BD, m.ob., photo - Gary Lanham); 4-6 Feb (1) Nickajack L (BD, m.ob.). **American White Pelican**: thru 5 Feb (40-100) Hiwassee Refuge (m.ob.); 24 Feb (28) Watts Bar Dam (J.D. Johnston); 27-28 Feb (59) Chickamauga L (DRJ, m.ob.). **Brown Pelican**: from summer thru 13 Dec (1) Fort Patrick Henry L (m.ob.), seen sporadically. **Great Egret**: 9 Dec - 19 Feb (1-9) Lackey Cr, Blount Co (RW, m.ob.); 17 Dec - 27 Jan (1-2) Tennessee R, Knox Co (CJW, m.ob.); 18 Dec (8) Tennessee R, Rhea Co (RHo); 1 Jan (1) Hiwassee CBC; 17 Jan - 27 Feb (1) Kingsport (FRC, m.ob.). **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 4 Jan (1) Hiwassee Refuge (BD), generally scarce in SE Tenn. ***Plegadis* sp.**: 7 Dec (1) Greenback, Loudon Co (Janet McKnight, m.ob.); 9-12 Dec (1) Greene Co (Mike Sanders, Daryl Owens, Roger Lemaster, photo, m.ob.). **Osprey**: thru season (1-2) Ft Loudoun L / Melton Hill L (m.ob.), regular wintering site in recent years; 16 Dec (1) Chickamauga L (TLR); 16 Feb (1) Watts Bar Dam (RHo). **Merlin**: 8 Dec - 26 Feb (1) Lakeshore Park, Knox Co (Jerry Ledbetter, m.ob.); 27 Dec (1) Laurel Run Park, Hawkins Co (Gary Bailey); 3 Jan (1) Sullivan Co (TSM); 10 / 15 Jan (1) Ooltewah, Hamilton Co (BD / KAC); 20 Jan (2) Jonesborough (RLK, m.ob.); 29 Jan (1) Cove Lake SP (Doug Raybuck); 2 Feb (1) Bledsoe Co (RSh, DSh); 13 / 27 Feb (1) Paddle Cr pond (RRK / RDH, DMy); 21 Feb (1) Warrior's Path SP, Sullivan Co (SQ, BFi). **Peregrine Falcon**: thru season (1) Maryville, Blount Co (m.ob.), regular wintering site; thru season (1) Chickamauga Dam (m.ob.), former breeding site; 8 Dec (1 ad) Dead Horse L, Knox Co (Murray Wade); 15 Dec (1) Johnson City (FJA); 27 Dec / 7 Jan (1) Limestone, Washington Co (RLK), regular wintering site; 4 Jan (1) east Knox Co (Dan Ellsworth); 4 Jan (1) Jonesborough (David Lugo, Jonathan Lugo); 19 Jan (1) Kingsport (FRC); 25 Jan (1)

Paddle Cr pond (RLK).

Vireo - Siskin: **White-eyed Vireo**: 30 Dec (1) Blount Co (CE), on Knoxville CBC. **Blue-headed Vireo**: 9-16 Dec (1) Amnicola Marsh / Tennessee Riverwalk (Louise Venne, BD, Jeffrey Schaarschmidt, photo); 31 Dec (1) Ooltewah, Hamilton Co (John Diener). **Fish Crow**: 23 Feb (1) Johnson City (RLK). **Common Raven**: 4 Dec / 24 Feb (1 / 2) Phipps Bend, Hawkins Co (Gary Bailey); 30 Dec / 6 Feb (1) Boone L (RLK); 2 Jan (2) Conklin, Washington Co (RLK); 7 / 20 Jan (2) Limestone, Washington Co (RLK); 18 Jan - 16 Feb (1-2) Jonesborough (m.ob.); 29 Jan (2) near Newcomb, Campbell Co (Bruce Di Labio, Tom Hince); 2 / 27 Feb (1) Kingsport (SQ et al.); 13 Feb (2, nest building) Bristol Motor Speedway, Sullivan Co (Michele Sparks), recent nest site. **Tree Swallow**: 26 Jan (2) Eagle Bend (Jean Alexander, David Johnson); 28 Jan (2) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (TSM, Cathy McNeil); 31 Jan (3) John Sevier L (SHu); 1 Feb (2) Douglas L (KW); 1 Feb (1) Heritage Center Greenway (Roger Kroodsma); these five records all predate the previous early arrival date for Tennessee and another tied it on 2 Feb (5) Ish Cr Bay, Blount Co (Michael Ryon); by the end of Feb this species was observed numerous times at more than a dozen other sites in the region for what must be the strongest early season influx ever; 28 Feb (175) Ish Cr Bay, Blount Co (Marcia Davis), max. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 14 Jan (1) John Sevier L (SHu), only report. **House Wren**: several reports from Hamilton, Marion, and Bledsoe Cos thru the season; 21 Dec (1) Roane Co (MM). **Marsh Wren**: 28 Dec (1) Kingsport (Gary Bailey); 30 Dec (1) UT Plant Sciences Farm, Knox Co (MM et al.), on Knoxville CBC. **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 30 Dec (1) Kingsport CBC (FRC). **Gray Catbird**: 11 Dec (1) Cove Lake SP (Nell Moore); 18 Dec (1) Hall's Greenway, Knox Co (JaW); 30 Dec (1) Karns, Knox Co (Charles Nicholson), on Knoxville CBC; 1 Jan (1) Hiwassee CBC; 12 Jan (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 7 Feb (1) Lyon's Bend, Knox Co (Susan Hoyle). **Purple Finch**: few reports. **Pine Siskin**: representative counts: 23 Dec (30) Cumberland Co (EKL); 11 Jan (40) Signal Mtn, Hamilton Co (Pixie Lanham, Gary Lanham); 28 Jan (6) Sewanee, Franklin Co (Jim Peters); 26 Feb (100) Bledsoe Co (RSh, DSh).

Sparrow - Warbler: **American Tree Sparrow**: 15 Jan (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 16-21 Jan (1-2) Heritage Center Greenway (CE, m.ob.). **Vesper Sparrow**: 27 Dec / 11-22 Jan (1) Standifer Gap Marsh, Hamilton Co (Kent DuBois / BD); 26 Jan (2) Bradley Co (RHo); 3 Feb (2) Phipps Bend, Hawkins Co (BSc, MM); 28 Feb (1) Polk Co (RHo). **Lark Sparrow**: 14 Jan - 7 Feb (1) Harris Johnson Park, Chattanooga (BD, m.ob.), where 1 was present in Jan 2016. **Harris's Sparrow**: 27-28 Dec / 21-24 Jan (1 im) Seven Islands SP, Knox Co (MM et al. / Mark Armstrong, KW). **Yellow-headed Blackbird**: 13-20 Jan (1 im male) Jonesborough (Dawn Peters fide BP, JP, photo, m.ob.), 3rd record in NE Tenn. **Ovenbird**: 2 Dec (1) ETSU campus, Johnson City (KCB, photo); 5 Jan (1) UT Chattanooga campus (David Aborn, photo); these are the 7th and 8th winter records in the state; 6 of the 8 records are from East Tennessee. **Black-and-white Warbler**: 13 Dec (1) Seven Islands SP (Mark Ray, photo). **Orange-crowned Warbler**: continuation of increased winter presence in region, with 25 records from Anderson (1), Blount (2), Hamilton (6), Knox (8), Marion (2), Meigs (1), Roane (1), Sullivan (3), and Washington (1) Cos; including 2 birds wintering at suet feeders

in Knox Co (CJW, Jerry Ledbetter). **Palm Warbler**: 30+ reports from Anderson, Blount, Bledsoe, Bradley, Hamilton, Hawkins, Knox, Marion, Polk, Roane, Sullivan and Washington Cos; highest counts: 10 Dec (10) Bledsoe Co (RSh, DSh); 12 Jan (8) Brainerd Levee (BD).

Locations: Amnicola Marsh (and Tennessee Riverwalk) - Hamilton Co; Boone L - Sullivan and Washington Cos; Chickamauga L - Hamilton Co; Cove Lake SP - Campbell Co; Douglas L - Jefferson and Sevier Cos; Eagle Bend - fish hatchery in Anderson Co; Fort Loudoun L - Blount and Knox Cos (unless specified otherwise); Fort Patrick Henry L - Sullivan Co; Heritage Center Greenway - Roane Co; Hiwassee Refuge - Meigs Co; John Sevier L - Hawkins Co; Jonesborough - Washington Co; Kingsport - Sullivan Co; Melton Hill L - Anderson and Knox Cos; Nickajack L - Marion Co; Paddle Cr pond - Sullivan Co; Seven Islands SP - Knox Co; Watts Bar Dam - Meigs and Rhea Cos; White's Cr arm of Watts Bar L - Rhea and Roane Cos.

RICHARD L. KNIGHT, 804 North Hills Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604
rknight8@earthlink.net

EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION - - Temperatures for December were about normal, while the daily average for January was 3.4 degrees below normal. February was really warm with average temperatures 10.4 degrees above normal. December and January were dry with a combined deficit of 3.4 inches. February was wet, at 3.7 inches above normal, making up that earlier deficit.

Short-eared Owls made a strong winter presence in Cades Cove in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Besides frequent incidental observations, a survey conducted on 20 January by 25 participants documented up to four owls. It is believed that the presence of the Short-eared Owls in Cades Cove is due to the conversion of pastures to native warm season grasses. The survey on 20 January also tallied high numbers of Northern Harriers and Red-shouldered Hawks, plus a Sedge Wren.

Waterfowl: **Snow Goose**: 10 Dec (1) South Holston L (RLK); 22 Dec (1) Mountain City, Johnson Co (RLK, Guy McGrane), on CBC; 6 Jan (1) Polk Co (RHo); 15 Jan (5) Holston Valley, Sullivan Co (RMC, RBB); 21 Jan - 8 Feb (1) Siam / Great Lakes Pond, both in Carter Co (TSM, m.ob.); 21 Jan (1) Fishery Park, Unicoi Co (TSM). **Ross's Goose**: 1-3 Jan (1) Watauga R, Carter Co (Joe McGuiness, m.ob.). **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 14 Dec - 5 Jan (1, with 4 on latter date) Great Lakes Pond, Carter Co (TSM, m.ob.); 1 Jan (14) South Holston L (RRK, JDA). **Cackling Goose**: 5 Jan (1) Elizabethton (RLK, m.ob.). **Tundra Swan**: 31 Dec (11, flying over) South Holston L (RPL), on Bristol CBC. **Northern Pintail**: above average numbers in NE Tenn (m.ob.). **Redhead**: 9-30 Jan (10-44) South Holston R. weir, Sullivan Co (Bill Grigsby, RBB, RMC, m.ob.). **Greater Scaup**: 16 Dec - 17 Feb (2-7) Wilbur L (BP, JP, RLK, TSM, m.ob.); 29-30 Jan (2) South Holston R. weir, Sullivan Co (RLK). **Surf Scoter**: 10 / 31 Dec (1) South Holston L (RLK); 3 Jan (1) Wilbur L (RLK, m.ob.); 5 Jan (2) South Holston L (RRK, JDA); 9-12 Feb (1) Parksville L, Polk Co (David Chaffin, m.ob.). **White-winged Scoter**: 31 Dec (4) South Holston L (RLK), on Bristol CBC.

Long-tailed Duck: 31 Dec - 9 Jan (1-5) South Holston L (RPL, RLK, RRK, JDA). **Common Goldeneye**: few reports; 3 Jan (4) Wilbur L (RLK), max. **Common Merganser**: 4-9 Jan (9) South Holston L (RLK, m.ob.); 11 Jan - 20 Feb (1-3 males, 3-4 females) Little R, Blount Co (RW, m.ob.); 26 Jan - 13 Feb (pair) middle prong of Little Pigeon R, Sevier Co (KW). **Red-breasted Merganser**: 9 Jan (14) South Holston L (RRK, JDA), max.

Grebe - Falcon: **Horned Grebe**: 31 Jan (52) Watauga L, Johnson Co portion (RLK), max. **Eared Grebe**: 25 Jan - 1 Mar (1) South Holston L (RLK, m.ob.). **Northern Harrier**: 20 Jan (12) Cades Cove, GSMNP (KW, m.ob.), max. **Red-shouldered Hawk**: 20 Jan (16) Cades Cove, GSMNP (KW, m.ob.), max. **Short-eared Owl**: from Nov thru 3 Mar (1-4) Cades Cove, GSMNP (KW, m.ob.). **Merlin**: 29 Dec (1) Chilhowee L, Blount Co (RW); 15 Jan (1) South Holston L (SQ). **Peregrine Falcon**: 5 / 29 Jan (1 / 2) South Holston L (RRK, JDA / RLK); 14 Jan (1) Elizabethton (Harry H. Farthing, Sue Farthing); 21 Feb (2) Doe R. Gorge, Carter Co (Pete Range).

Vireo - Warbler: **Blue-headed Vireo**: 16 Dec (1) Elizabethton CBC (FJA, KCB). **Common Raven**: 2 Feb (1) Cherokee National Forest, Polk Co (RHo). **Tree Swallow**: 16 Feb (1) South Holston L (RMC), ers. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: few reports. **House Wren**: 16 Dec (1) Elizabethton CBC; 10 Jan (1) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Warren Bielenberg). **Sedge Wren**: 20-25 Jan (1) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Tom Howe / MM). **Gray Catbird**: 16 Dec (1) Dry Hill, Johnson Co (RLK, JDA, Jacki Hinshaw), on Elizabethton CBC. **American Pipit**: 10 Feb (30) Hunter, Carter Co (RBB), max. **Purple Finch**: 1 Jan (2) Townsend, Blount Co (Kathryn Barrow); 15 Jan (1) Holston Valley, Sullivan Co (RPL); thru Jan and Feb (1-6) near Milligan College, Carter Co (FJA); only reports. **Red Crossbill**: 21 / 29 Jan (8 / 3) Newfound Gap, GSMNP (KW / CE), only reports. **Pine Siskin**: only in scattered pockets; 7 Dec (55) Pittman Center, Sevier Co (KW); 13 Jan thru season (max 20) Wilbur L (BP, JP); 26 Jan (30) Newfound Gap, GSMNP (KW); 18-22 Feb (75-130) Shell Cr, Carter Co (Judi Sawyer), max. **Pine Warbler**: thru season (1, at feeder) Wilbur L (BP, JP).

Locations: Elizabethton - Carter Co; GSMNP - Great Smoky Mtns National Park; South Holston L - Sullivan Co; Wilbur L - Carter Co.

RICHARD P. LEWIS, 407 V.I. Ranch Road, Bristol, TN 37620
mountainbirds@gmail.com

Observers

CA - Chris Agee
FJA - Fred J. Alsop
JDA - Jim D. Anderson
JAr - Jim Arnett
SA - Sharon Arnold
RBB - Rob B. Biller
KCB - Kevin C. Brooks
KAC - Kevin A. Calhoon
RMC - Ron M. Carrico
PDC - Phillip D. Casteel
RHC - Richard H. Connors
FRC - F. Rack Cross
BD - Bruce Dralle
CE - Chuck Estes
HLF - Harry Lee Farthing
FF - Frank Fekel
BFi - Bambi Fincher
BFo - Bob Foehring
GG - Graham Gerdeman
MAG - Mark A. Greene
JH - Joe Hall
RH - Rob Harbin
RDH - Ron D. Hoff
RHo - Rick Houlk
SHu - Susan Hubley
DRJ - Daniel R. Jacobson
RLK - Richard L. Knight
RRK - Roy R. Knispel
EKL - Edmund K. LeGrand
RPL - Richard P. Lewis
MM - Morton Massey
TSM - Thomas S. McNeil
SNM - Susan N. McWhirter
DMo - Daniel Moss
DMy - Dollyann Myers
JN - Justin Nation
BP - Brookie Potter
JP - Jean Potter
DDP - Dick D. Preston
SQ - Sherrie Quillen
TLR - Tommie L. Rogers
CR - Cyndi Routledge
BSc - Beth Schilling
DSh - Debbie Shannon
RSh - Roi Shannon
JKS - Jan K. Shaw
DJS - Damien J. Simbeck
MS - Michael Smith
DSn - Dan Snell
JSt - Josh Stevenson
RS - Ruben Stoll
VS - Victor Stoll
MCT - Michael C. Todd
AT - Alan Troyer
CW - Chloe Walker
NW - Nolan Walker
KW - Keith Watson
CJW - Chris J. Welsh
JaW - Jacob Wessels
RW - Randy Winstead
SZ - Stephen Zipperer

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

The Migrant records observations and studies of birds in Tennessee and adjacent areas.

SUBMISSIONS: The manuscript should be submitted electronically to Bob Ford at editorthemigrant@gmail.com. Submission of hard copies is optional. If so desired the original and two copies of the manuscript should be sent to the: Editor: Bob Ford, 808 Hatchie, Brownsville, TN 38012. Manuscripts that have been published in other journals should not be submitted.

MATERIAL: The subject matter should relate to some phase of Tennessee ornithology. It should be original, factual, concise and scientifically accurate.

STYLE: Both articles and short notes are solicited; recent issues of *The Migrant* should be used as a guide in the preparation of manuscripts. Where more detail is needed, reference should be made to *Scientific Style and Format*, eighth edition, by the Council of Science Editors, councilscienceeditors.org.

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NOMENCLATURE: The scientific name of a species should be given after the first use of the full common name in the text. The scientific name should be italicized and in parentheses. Names should follow the *A. O. U. Check-list of North American Birds* (seventh edition, 1998, or supplements).

TITLE: The title should be concise, specific and descriptive.

ABSTRACT: Manuscripts of five or more pages should include an abstract. The abstract should be less then 5% of the length of the manuscript. It should include a brief explanation of why the research was done, the major results, and why the results are important.

LITERATURE CITED: List all literature citations in a "Literature Cited" section at the end of the text. Text citations should include the author and year.

IDENTIFICATION: Manuscripts including reports of rare or unusual species or of species at atypical times should include: date and time, light and weather conditions, exact location, habitat, optical equipment, distance, behavior of bird, comparison with other similar species, characteristic markings, experience of observer, other observers verifying the identification and reference works consulted.

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CONTENTS

FIRST RECORDS OF BLACK-CAPPED PETREL AND BROWN NODDY IN TENNESSEE
Michael Todd 49

FIRST TENNESSEE RECORD OF BROWN BOOBY
Ruben Stoll 52

BOOK REVIEW: BIRDS OF THE CENTRAL CAROLINAS
Bob Ford 53

2018 TENNESSEE SPRING BIRD COUNTS
Ron Hoff 54

CORRECTION TO THE PUBLISHED 2017 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT
Bob Ford 67

MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2018 TOS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Cyndi Rutledge 78

THE WINTER SEASON: 1 DECEMBER 2017 - 28 FEBRUARY 2018
Richard L. Knight 82

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION
Dick D. Preston 83

HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION
Stephen Zipperer 86

CUMBERLAND PLATEAU/RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION
Richard L. Knight 89

EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION
Richard P. Lewis 94